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                    UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
1
                    EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK
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 3
    UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
 4
                    Plaintiff,
                                        07-CV-2067 (NGG)
5
         -and-
 6
    VULCAN SOCIETY, INC., for
    itself and on behalf of its
 7
    Members; MARCUS HAYWOOD,
    CANDIDO NUNEZ, and ROGER
8
    GREGG, individually and on
    behalf of a class of all
9
    other similarly situated,
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11
         Plaintiff-Intervenors,
12
                                        U.S. Courthouse
               -against-
13
                                         Brooklyn, N.Y.
14
    THE CITY OF NEW YORK, THE
    FIRE DEPARTMENT OF THE CITY
15
    OF NEW YORK, NEW YORK CITY
    DEPARTMENT OF CITYWIDE
16
    ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES,
    MAYOR MICHAEL BLOOMBERG
    and NEW YORK CITY FIRE
17
    COMMISSIONER NICHOLAS
    SCOPPETTA, in their
18
    individual and official
19
    capacities,
20
                    Defendants.
21
                                        August 19, 2010
                                        10:00 a.m.
                             - - - X
22
    BEFORE:
23
              HONORABLE NICHOLAS G. GARAUFIS,
24
              United States District Judge
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1	APPEARANCES:		
2		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE Civil Rights Division	
3		950 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Employment Litigation Section, PHB Washington, DC 20530 BY: SHARON A. SEELEY, ESQ. MEREDITH L. BURRELL, ESQ. JENNIFER M. SWEDISH, ESQ.	
4			
5			
6		AND LORETTA LYNCH	
7		United States Attorney Eastern District of New York	
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11	For the Plaintiff: Intervenors	LEVY RATNER, P.C. 80 Eighth Avenue 8th Floor New York, New York 10011-5126	
12			
13		BY: RICHARD A. LEVY, ESQ. DANA LOSSIA, ESQ.	
14		CENTER FOR	
15		CONSTITUTUIONAL RIGHTS BY: ANJANA SAMANT, ESQ.	
16		DARIUS CHARNEY, ESQ.	
17			
18		NEW YORK CITY LAW DEPARTMENT Office of the Corporation Counsel 100 Church Street	
19			
20		New York, New York 10007 BY: JAMES M. LEMONEDES, ESQ.	
21		JOSHUA FAY, ESQ. Asst. Corporation Counsels	
22	0 1 5	HOLLY PRICORL COR	
23	•	HOLLY DRISCOLL, CSR 225 Cadman Plaza East	
24		Brooklyn, New York 11201 718-613-2274	
25	Proceedings recorded by mechanical stenography, transcript produced by Computer-Assisted Transcript.		

3 THE COURT: Please be seated. All right. 1 2 Good morning, everyone 3 Appearances please. 4 MS. SEELEY: Good morning, Your Honor, Sharon Seeley for the plaintiff United States. 5 THE COURT: Good morning. 6 MS. BURRELL: Good morning, Your Honor, Meredith 7 Burrell for plaintiff United States. 8 9 MS. SWEDISH: Good morning, Your Honor, Jennifer 10 Swedish for the plaintiff United States. MR. SCHACHNER: Good morning, Your Honor, Elliot 11 12 Schachner for the plaintiff United States. 13 MR. LEVY: Good morning, Your Honor, Richard Levy for plaintiff-intervenors. 14 15 MS. LOSSIA: Good morning, Your Honor, Dana Lossia for plaintiff-intervenors. 16 17 MR. CHARNEY: Good morning, Your Honor, Darius 18 Charney for the plaintiff-intervenors. 19 MS. SAMANT: Good morning, Your Honor, Anjana Samant for the plaintiff-intervenors. 20 21 MR. WASHINGTON: Good morning, Your Honor, Paul 22 Washington, Vulcan Society. 23 MR. MARSHAL: Good morning, Michael Marshal, Vulcan 24 Society. 25 MR. LEMONEDES: Good morning, Your Honor, James

4 Lemonedes on behalf of the defendants. 1 2 MR. FAY: Good morning, Your Honor, Joshua Fay on 3 behalf of the defendants. 4 THE COURT: Welcome, Mr. Fay. MR. FAY: Thank you, Your Honor. 5 Okay. Before I take testimony is there 6 THE COURT: 7 anything any of the parties wish to say preliminarily so that 8 we can understand the foundation for this hearing? 9 I would note that I have had communication from the 10 Special Master that discussions are ongoing related to the 11 possibility of finding some common ground to permit a class to 12 go forward but that no resolution has been reached and that 13 discussions are going to continue. The Special Master 14 indicated to me that she would like to continue these discussions on Monday. So, you should be in contact with 15 16 Ms. White after the hearing to make arrangements in that 17 regard. 18 Do you have anything this morning? 19 MS. SEELEY: No. Your Honor. MR. LEVY: Well, I don't know what the range of 20 21 things you want -- you're open to hearing about this morning. 22 One thing I would say is having reviewed the questions that 23 you asked of the city, I just want to say from the standpoint 24 of the plaintiff-intervenors and the Vulcan Society and the 25 applicants who we have been working with, we are hopeful that

there's a resolution here that does not unduly delay or put off the hiring. I mean just so we're clear, in that sense I guess we are allied with the city. We can't move the numbers of minorities in the Fire Department without hiring going forward in some fashion. Now, obviously we'd like to see that happen in a way that doesn't implicate a Title VII violation but we certainly think it would be the best resolution, particularly from an equitable standpoint in terms of other applicants and in terms of the city's interests and ours if we can find that resolution.

There have been some ideas, one that we discussed a little bit off the record this morning that maybe really need off the record discussion as opposed to on the record as we have been searching around for alternative approaches to implementing that hiring and one I discussed with Jim this morning, I don't -- I'm sure he's not in a position to commit to in any way at this moment but it was something we hadn't discussed before and I think those kind of discussions are worthwhile.

I think that finding out whether overtime costs this million or that million is not really going to advance greatly our common interest here and I think in a sense there's a common interest, I think all of us would like to see some hiring, fair hiring and the least delay. So, you asked for comment, I hope I'm not going afield of what you wanted.

THE COURT: That's fine.

MR. LEVY: But I would be hopeful that our efforts are focused as much as possible on a methodology that works and we've put in papers, as you know, that suggest that that methodology exists, it has been sanctioned by the Circuit and suggested as an option and, as we've said before, we're not in any way interested in obstructing the city in hiring as long as we adjust the numbers to reach compliance.

THE COURT: All right. Thank you.

Mr. Lemonedes, do you have anything you'd like to say?

MR. LEMONEDES: Just very briefly, if I can put the hearing in a little bit sort of context. We're particularly mindful of Your Honor's comments during the August 11th conference and, as I'm understanding, Your Honor has basically dual interests that you're looking at; you're looking at the city's needs to move forward and that's the evidence I'm attempting to present to you as much as possible today. There's also the other need of the means in which a hiring could occur that would be most appropriate.

To the degree that that is far more something that deals with the mediation, I think it's appropriate that those discussions stay there and I certainly have some other discussion with Mr. Levy that might be valuable there but not to be presented at this point.

So, our goal at this point for Your Honor is with reference to the comments that Your Honor made during the last conference, I'm attempting to present you witnesses that give Your Honor that information and that way you'll at least have the first part of what's going on and we can see what happens with the mediation aspect and how to actually implement something if that at all can be reached. So, if that's sufficient for Your Honor.

THE COURT: Right, thank you.

As I indicated the last time with respect to the questions that I raised in my comments, the technical issues about the costs of hiring firefighters as opposed to the overtime costs and so forth were really raised in comments by city officials after the Court ruled on 6019, the use of 6019, and so I thought it would be useful to have a record on that.

I also think it's useful to have a record on the subject matter that Mr. Levy raised the last time on the efficacy of overtime as a general tool in the Fire Department and the concern that was implicit in the city's out of court statements that overtime would or may in some cases result in less than optimal conditions for the firefighters in doing their job. So, I don't see anyone on your list that can speak to that, Mr. Lemonedes, but certainly I would take testimony from Mr. Washington if he wanted to testify today on that subject and I would take testimony from the city if not today,

tomorrow or some other day on that subject as well because I think that the overriding issue with respect to calling a class for the fall has to do with the importance of providing the necessary person-power to do the job and do it right and do it well and do it best.

And so, I don't want to rule anything out but I also would like to have some information that would help me in balancing off whether there is a pressing need to move forward with a class before we have a new test in place and a new list in place and I know that there are many candidates for the fire academy who are deeply concerned about this, I sympathize with them, and the purpose of this process is not to impede providing the necessary staffing for the Fire Department, it's to balance that need with the need to fulfill the Court's obligation to enforce the Civil Rights Act and so this is not an easy balancing act and I want everyone's help in trying to achieve a fair, sensible, prudent interim resolution and then we'll move on to everything else which is what you're working on with the Special Master with regard to the new -- preparing a new test.

So, I just wanted to put all that on the record so you understood that the Court is sensitive to all these considerations notwithstanding the out-of-court comments that are often made by persons who have nothing to do with the case and have apparently never read a single word that I ever wrote

9 1 on the subject of this litigation. 2 So, you can call your first witness. 3 MR. LEMONEDES: And if I could, just based on what 4 Your Honor said, you mentioned possibly tomorrow, Your Honor should know that there is a meeting with the Special Master 5 6 and all of the experts which is the first general meeting so 7 continuing this hearing tomorrow might be problematic. 8 THE COURT: We'll find a day. 9 MR. LEMONEDES: Perfect. 10 In the very near future. THE COURT: 11 MR. LEMONEDES: Absolutely. THE COURT: I set October 1st as the date for the 12 13 temporary stay because I wanted to have enough time so that we 14 could have this process and we can always do it next week when you have a witness who's available and the Court is available. 15 16 I'm on trial next week but I will definitely -- it's a bench 17 trial so I'll definitely make time for this hearing if we need 18 to continue it. 19 MR. LEMONEDES: Thank you, Your Honor. THE COURT: All right. And those of you who are 20 21 planning a vacation, I hope you have refundable tickets. 22 MR. LEMONEDES: Thank you, sir. 23 THE COURT: Okay. 24 MR. LEMONEDES: May I approach and hand Your Honor a 25 copy of the exhibit book?

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Rush - direct - Lemonedes
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                          Sure. And the parties, the plaintiff
 1
              THE COURT:
 2
    and plaintiff-intervenors have received it?
 3
              MR. LEMONEDES:
                              Yes.
 4
              THE COURT: All right. Now, who would you like to
    make your first witness?
 5
              MR. LEMONEDES: Mr. Stephen Rush who is the
 6
 7
    Assistant Commissioner For Finance and Budget with the Fire
8
    Department; and may I go get him?
9
              THE COURT: Sure.
10
              MR. LEMONEDES:
                              Thank you.
11
               (Witness takes the stand and is sworn by the clerk.)
12
    STEPHEN
                    R U S H, having been first duly
13
    sworn was examined and testified as follows:
14
              MR. LEMONEDES:
                              Thank you.
              THE COURT: Please state and spell your full name
15
16
    for the record, sir.
17
                            Stephen Rush, S T E P H E N, R U S H.
              THE WITNESS:
18
              THE COURT: All right. You may inquire.
19
              MR. LEMONEDES:
                              Thank you, Your Honor.
20
              May I approach the witness and hand him a series of
21
    exhibits?
22
              THE COURT:
                          Sure.
23
              MR. LEMONEDES: I'm handing the witness premarked
    exhibits which have been labeled and identified for Your Honor
24
25
    as Defendant's Exhibit B-1 through B-14.
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Rush - direct - Lemonedes
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 1
               THE COURT:
                           All right.
 2
               MR. LEMONEDES:
                               May I inquire?
 3
               THE COURT: Yes, you may.
 4
               MR. LEMONEDES:
                               Thank you.
    DIRECT EXAMINATION
 5
    BY MR. LEMONEDES:
 6
 7
          Good morning, sir.
    Q
         Good morning.
 8
    Α
9
    Q
          Can you tell me how you're presently employed?
10
    Α
         New York City Fire Department.
11
    Q
         And what is the position that you hold?
12
         Assistant Commissioner For Budget and Finance.
    Α
13
    Q
         How long have you had that position?
14
    Α
         Since 1987.
         What are your duties as the Assistant Commissioner For
15
    Q
    Budget and Finance?
16
          I oversee the Fire Department's operating budget which
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18
    includes personnel services and the other than personnel
19
    services budget, the revenue budget, the capital budget,
    procurement for the Fire Department, all payroll and time
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21
    keeping operations, and uniformed pensions for the
22
    firefighters.
23
    Q
         What responsibilities, if any, do you have in regard to
24
    labor relations?
25
         As the chief fiscal officer, so to say, for the Fire
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Department I participate in all contractual negotiations and have participated since the mid-1980's.

Q Well, speaking of the mid-1980's, can you just very briefly give the Court your employment history with the City of New York?

A I was first employed by the City of New York in 1979, the Office of Management and Budget. Six months after that assignment in the Office of Management and Budget I was promoted to a position in the Fire Task Force which oversees the Fire Department. Each of the agencies -- of the mayoral agencies are overseen by a task force at OMB.

So, I started working on Fire Department budget issues in 1979. I came over to the Fire Department as their senior budget analyst in 1981; had a series of interim promotions in the Fire Commissioner's Office in 1984 and then became Assistant Commissioner for Budget in 1987.

Q Okay. Can you just briefly go through for us the steps that would be or are in place in generally creating a budget particularly for the Fire Department?

A When we're speaking about a budget, we're talking about how many people we would have on our staff. For most positions in the Fire Department -- for most positions when you look at -- you would look at one position to fill it, a role. In the Fire Department and other agencies is somewhat different because you have to have 24 hour staffing 365 days a

year. So, for each position that you need to fill, it requires 8,760 hours. So, in a fire house, depending on how many staff personnel you have on the engine or the truck, you're going to have a staffing factor associated with covering those many hours.

So, if we take the example of the firefighters, we have 8,760 hours to fill and, generally speaking, a firefighter when he's hired --

THE COURT: Or she.

THE WITNESS: That's right, correct.

THE COURT: Or she.

THE WITNESS: When a firefighter is hired, that firefighter gives us approximately on average 1,600 hours of work a year. On top of that they are scheduled for approximately 100 hours of overtime. That is scheduled overtime that was contractually built in as part of an arbitration agreement in 1989, it is called roster staffing overtime. So, each firefighter is giving us roughly 1,700 hours.

So, to fill a post which needs 8,760 hours, you roughly would need, if you wanted to fill it with personnel, five firefighters and the rest you would do with overtime. You could do it with four firefighters and pay a lot more overtime; you could do it with six firefighters and pay a lot less overtime but generally speaking we've always budgeted to

the level of five as ideal.

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In the last several years we've looked at ways to reduce overtime further by hiring extra firefighters and, in fact, there were years where we were several hundred firefighters above the authorized head count in agreement with OMB as a means of saving money because it is our analysis that the hiring of firefighters costs a lot less than paying the average cost of overtime for an average firefighter and the numbers are, if you took a probationary firefighter, a rookie firefighter coming out of school, we're paying a rookie in the Fire Department, not counting the pension costs, about \$21 an hour.

- Q Let me interrupt you and bring you back a little bit.
- 14 You talked about different staffing needs and now you've
- 15 talked about how many hours you would need to fill for each
- 16 | single position and then you talked about how many
- 17 | firefighters you would need in order to staff those hours?
- 18 A Yes.
- 19 Q Do you make other determinations?
- 20 A Sorry, so once we staff -- we have a staffing factor of
- 21 | five, then we say, okay, what's the required staffing.
- 22 | Contractually we're required to staff every ladder company
- 23 with five firefighters at the start of the tour.
- 24 Q I'm sorry, say that -- five firefighters?
- 25 A At the start of the tour and there are 198 engine

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15

- 1 | companies of which 64 start off with five at the start of the
- 2 | tour and 134 start off with four at the start of a tour and
- 3 based on that you build up to your 85, 8,600 number that we
- 4 use as our authorized strength because you have to multiply
- 5 that number by five.
- 6 Q Just so that I understand, you start by saying in order
- 7 to have a position filled I need to have this number of
- 8 firefighters?
- 9 A Correct.
- 10 Q For that position throughout the year?
- 11 A Correct.
- 12 | Q Then you look at how many positions there are for all of
- 13 | your different fire companies?
- 14 A That's right.
- 15 Q So, now you now have a total sort of picture of what your
- 16 staffing needs are based on personnel, is that accurate?
- 17 A That's correct.
- 18 Q What do you do with that then?
- 19 A Based on that we have hiring models where we determine
- 20 when we should be in fact hiring classes of probationary
- 21 | firefighters to have them field effective to control overtime
- 22 and to meet our operational needs.
- 23 Q Well, in order to make those projections out, what are
- 24 | the sort of things that you consider?
- 25 A Well, what we look at is how many personnel are on board.

HOLLY DRISCOLL, CSR
Official Court Reporter

We look at things like if -- ideally we would look at, we would like to have a probationary class graduate in time for the summer when vacation periods are higher to control overtime. So, we have to take all those factors into account.

Also, we look at our constraints on hiring based on the fact that we can only hire 300 firefighters at a time given space limitations at our academy.

Q In considering your staffing needs, what analysis, if any, do you do concerning issues such as attrition and vacations and sick leave, like that?

A Well, as I said earlier, the firefighter is providing about 1,700 hours of availability. That takes into account, you know, 200 hours on average of vacation, 150 hours on average of medical leave, 120 hours on average of light duty, so, the whole number of factors that come into that analysis.

We also look -- we have historic numbers on attrition, we've been doing attrition numbers since I've been with the Fire Department. Then -- so, on average in a given year, a normal year you're going to lose 500 firefighters.

Not all of them are going to retire, some will resign, some will -- and a great number will promote up to lieutenant and/or fire marshal but, on average, when we say attrition, we're saying roughly 500 people will retire or leave the rank.

Q Okay. So, and I interrupted you before, forgive me, let me try to get you back to this point; you talked about some

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sort of costs for staffing, you talked about overtime costs compared to -- did you say straight time or something else? Right, so, when we look at the analysis of hiring, you know, just in the Fire Department, although when you extend the numbers out to the fringe benefit side of the budget it still works the same way, we get more bang for the buck, so to speak, with a hiring of a firefighter because they're coming in at a much lower rate than the average firefighter would earn on overtime. The difference again, as I said, you would be talking about \$21 an hour for a firefighter on being hired and going into the field versus a senior firefighter who was filling that post on overtime if you didn't hire that firefighter at \$55 an hour. Are you familiar with the term called PEG? PEG is -- we don't call it fondly, but the agency -- it is a program to eliminate the budget gap, PEG, program to eliminate the gap, and it is an annual exercise that happens in the fall where we are given targets by the Office of Management and Budget to reduce our budget. Q So, the Office of Management and Budget says, gee,

A Correct. What happens generally, and depending on the year we may have several exercises and of late because of the fiscal conditions of the city has necessitated that but the

it would be great if you could have your budget come to this

number and you need to find a way to get there?

Office of Management and Budget will give all agencies targets.

Now, sometimes the targets for the uniformed agencies and when I say uniformed agencies, I'm speaking of the Police Department, the Fire Department, Corrections Department, the Sanitation Department, they may be given slightly lower targets, the Department of Education may be given a lower target but, in general, there are targets set for the agencies, 2 percent, 3 percent, 4 percent of your budget and you're asked to come up with savings that would --tied to that number, 4 percent of your budget, 2 percent of your budget.

- Q Just so that I understand, what you're being told is try and shave your budget down by about 4 percent?
- A No, what we're being told is to come up with options that total the 4 percent so that the OMB can review with the mayor citywide all of the options before them to make the choices of where they need to reduce money to balance the budget, to eliminate the gap that is.
- 20 Q So, you've had various PEG proposals?
- 21 A Yes.

- Q Okay. And what are the types of things that are looked at in attempting to do that?
- A Well, the first thing we try to look at is the things
 that do not impact direct service. Given that the Fire

Department's budget is 90 percent direct service, it gets very difficult but we do endeavor to do things like that; we look at, for example, how much we're charging for the transport of a patient to the hospital via our FDNY ambulances. So, if our rate structure can support an increased rate, we'll make application for that.

We come up with other various revenue initiatives, raising certain taxes which require city and local -- the council and state approval and other things of that nature to try to mitigate any impact on service operations. When you're talking about targets that can be 50 to 60 to \$70 million, you inevitably have to look at front line staffing and that means, you know, either closing fire companies or reducing staffing on fire companies. Reducing staffing on fire companies you just can't do unilaterally, it is contractually mandated that the staffing remains as is at least until February 1st, 2011.

Q Let me go back and look at each of those two situations. You said one of the ways is to reduce staffing in fire

A That's correct.

companies?

- 21 Q How would you do that?
 - A There is an agreement in place that was negotiated in 1996, I was part of those negotiations, where we agreed that 60 engine companies would have a fifth firefighter. So, instead, when that engine company goes out in the beginning of

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the tour they would have five firefighters and one fire officer, so we call it a five firefighter engine. Then the rest of the engine companies run with four firefighters.

So, that was the agreement that was negotiated. The agreement was renewed in 2006 and expires in 2011. It is the city's intention effective February 1st, 2011 to reduce the staffing on those 60 engine companies to four firefighters per tour.

- Q Well, you're telling us what your understanding is from the budget concerns, you're not speaking for the city on that issue, right?
- 12 A The city -- in the mayor's -- in the city's financial 13 plan --
- 14 Q 0kay.

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- 15 A -- for 2011, this fiscal year, there is a proposed
 16 reduction that's in there of 300 firefighters which is the
 17 equivalent of 60 engine companies being reduced from five
 18 firefighters per tour to four firefighters per tour.
 - Q So, that's one way that you would consider having an opportunity to lower the manpower by reducing the number of firefighters on the truck; is that right?
- 22 A On the engine we call it.
- 23 Q On the engine, okay.
- 24 A The truck is the ladder.
- 25 Q Okay. So, how is that a benefit, are you talking about

- 1 any sort of layoffs then?
- 2 A No, we would do that simply through attrition.
- 3 Q Okay. The other option you gave was something about fire
- 4 houses?
- 5 A Right. Well, for the last two years at least we've -- in
- 6 2003 we closed six fire companies, when we were coming off of
- 7 | the 9/11 disaster and the city's finances were doing horribly
- 8 so we had to close six companies. Going into fiscal year 2010
- 9 | we had on the table 16 companies to be closed.
- 10 | Q What would happen if you closed 16 companies?
- 11 A If you close 16 companies you would basically have --
- 12 | those companies -- the manpower would be reassigned to other
- 13 units -- person-power would be reassigned to other units and
- 14 | we would take the savings through attrition so we wouldn't
- 15 hire a firefighter class because potentially we would not need
- 16 to depending on the circumstances of your head count.
- 17 Q Okay. So, ultimately what you're saying is it's an
- 18 option to close a fire house and redeploy the firefighters so
- 19 that you can more easily cover the costs of overtime in the
- 20 different fire stations?
- 21 A That's right. Well, once your head count staffing is
- 22 | reduced, you have that surplus manpower for a while, it can
- 23 | reduce overtime but eventually you're not hiring so it should
- 24 all even out.
- THE COURT: I'm sorry, that was FY 2010?

THE WITNESS: It was in FY '10 and FY '11 a similar event happened where 20 fire companies were put up for closing and in both years the City Council and the mayor came to an agreement to restore the funding to keep those fire companies open.

- Q Okay. So, we're talking about FY, that's fiscal year, is that what you're talking about?
- 8 A Right, the fiscal year ends -- starts July 1st, ends 9 June 30.
- THE COURT: So, we're now in fiscal year 2011?
- 11 THE WITNESS: That's correct.
- 12 THE COURT: Thank you.
- Go ahead.

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- Q So, in both the prior fiscal year and this fiscal year you're telling us that there were PEGs which were programs in which it was planned to be actually closing fire houses?
- 17 A That's correct.
- 18 Q Okay. And in each of those instances what happened?
- 19 A What happens during -- there is the budget adoption
- 20 negotiations that occur in June of each year and in the course
- 21 of those negotiations the City Council and the mayor came to
- 22 an agreement to restore the funding for those fire units.
- Q So, more funding was put back in so these fire houses did
- 24 | not have to close?
- 25 A That's correct.

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Rush - direct - Lemonedes
                                                                  23
                All right. I'd like for you to turn to some of
1
    Q
         Okay.
 2
    the exhibits in front of you and specifically draw your
    attention to Defendant's Exhibit B-1, B as in boy.
 3
 4
              THE COURT:
                          Is there any objection to any of these
    exhibits?
 5
 6
              MS. SEELEY: Your Honor, I believe our only
 7
    objection would be that B-7 through B-14 I believe it was or
8
    actually may have been B-8, B-8 through B-14 we only received
9
    for the first time this morning at a few minutes before ten
10
    and so I don't -- we haven't had an opportunity to review them
11
    carefully and I would just like to reserve an opportunity to
    object to them.
12
13
              THE COURT: All right, that's fine. Otherwise,
14
    Exhibits B-1 through B-14 are received with that caveat.
15
              Yes?
16
              MR. LEVY: One other thing.
17
              THE COURT:
                           I'm sorry, Mr. Levy.
18
              MR. LEVY:
                          I haven't seen the background data that
19
    would support the numbers in here. I'm not questioning them
20
    at the moment because I don't know what the runs were or what
    the, you know, data base was for coming up with some of these
21
22
    numbers but it is the same objection basically, we received
23
    these recently and we would need to look at them.
24
              THE COURT: You can.
25
              MR. LEVY: But subject to that.
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Rush - direct - Lemonedes 24 1 THE COURT: All right. 2 MR. LEVY: We can use them. 3 THE COURT: As to all exhibits you mean or just 8 4 through 14? MR. LEVY: 5 I haven't actually -- some we were handed this morning that I haven't seen yet. 6 7 THE COURT: Well, let's put it this way, I'm going to request that the city provide to the parties the underlying 8 9 data that provided the basis for these charts and if there's a 10 problem, the parties should let me know, all right. 11 MR. LEMONEDES: We'll be happy to do that. 12 attempted just to get the material to you as soon as we could. 13 I'll give them anything that Your Honor wishes. 14 THE COURT: Thank. All right. 15 MR. LEMONEDES: Thank you, sir. (Defendant's Exhibits B-1 through B-14 received in 16 17 evidence.) 18 Q So, looking at Defendant's Exhibit B-1, can you tell me 19 what that is? 20 We put together from our databases information on our 21 budgeted head count since FY '96 and we compare that to our 22 average fiscal year actuals for that year and we took an 23 average of the 12 months to come up with that average and 24 compared that to, you know, our authorized strength to see how 25 much we were under or over. So, if you -- for the most part,

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you know, in the earlier years we're close to the authorized 1 2 strength but we rise up significantly beginning in FY '07, 3 that's when as part of actually a budget exercise to reduce 4 costs we decided to hire extra firefighters so we were going into what we call over quota condition, again because we felt 5 6 that hiring extra firefighters to a certain extent is 7 beneficial cost-wise to the city. Operationally it's also helpful because at times you can have extra firefighters in 8 9 engine companies or a ladder company, so, you know, not that 10 it's necessary but it's there.

So, we hired extra firefighters during this period, we went over quota and beginning in FY '10 when we -- beginning in FY '09 we hired the first class off 6019 which was approximately 300 firefighters and that was the last class we hired because thereafter we started attriting (ph) down personnel because we were in a budget condition situation where they were thinking of things like closing companies.

- Q So, as I'm looking down your chart and I look at the one, two -- third column down from the bottom it says FY '09, that's the fiscal year '09?
- 21 A That's correct.

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- Q And what you're indicating to me is that you were over head count by 296?
- A Right, that was part of a planned program to reduce costs
 because ultimately even though our authorized strength is

- 1 8,654, we liking to go over quota to reduce overtime.
- 2 Q Okay. And then as a result of not having any classes
- 3 | since that point, in that next year fiscal '10 you're actually
- 4 below head count by 81?
- 5 A Right, the attrition -- as the attrition keeps going
- 6 | forward with no replacement hires you start running up
- 7 overtime costs.
- 8 Q So, by our current fiscal year '11 we are under head
- 9 | count by 261?
- 10 A Correct.
- 11 | Q Okay. And that's as a result of attrition and other
- 12 | factors?
- 13 A The attrition, as I explained earlier, promotions which
- 14 | are part of attrition and the basic fact that we haven't
- 15 hired.
- 16 Q Okay. If I can now draw your attention to Defendant's
- 17 | Exhibit B-2, can you tell me what that is?
- 18 | A I think there was a question with respect to what is your
- 19 | average attrition, I thought it was for the last five years,
- 20 so we put together those numbers. As we break it out,
- 21 | retirements -- retirements can occur -- generally retirements
- 22 | occur for firefighters between 20 and 25 years of service and
- 23 there are -- those are regular service retirements. In
- 24 | addition, on top of that you get disability retirements.
- 25 | We've had a good number of disability retirements in the last

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- 1 | number of years, a lot of that is extenuating circumstances
- 2 | from the World Trade Center. And those -- and there are
- 3 disability and service retirements that make up the retirement
- 4 | number, other attrition is resignations, leave of absences,
- 5 | terminations, death, and then on top of that we add in
- 6 promotions out of rank.
- 7 Q So, you're actually reducing the number of firefighters
- 8 | because he or she or a particular firefighter has now moved
- 9 out of that rank?
- 10 A That's right.
- 11 | Q What we are focusing on here are the firefighters, right?
- 12 A That's correct. So, the title has lost that person and,
- 13 | therefore, it's a vacancy or attrition.
- 14 Q So, what this schedule does is it demonstrates what the
- 15 | attrition rate has been along the last several years?
- 16 A Right, so the last five years it's been about 556.
- 17 | Q Okay.
- 18 A On average.
- 19 Q Now, let me draw your attention to Defendant's Exhibit
- 20 B-3. Can you tell me what that is?
- 21 A In FY -- beginning in FY '10 we had just came off of the
- 22 | budget adoption where the 16 fire companies that were
- 23 | scheduled to be closed were restored. My -- from my end, from
- 24 | the budget end we knew right away that given the restoration
- 25 | we should be hiring a class of firefighters.

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Rush - direct - Lemonedes 28 So, that's what you are referring to in -- I'm drawing 1 Q 2 your attention to the top paragraph with the restoration of 3 the fire companies. 4 That's right, 16 companies were restored and that means our authorized strength went up and we, therefore, needed to 5 put a class in. So, we recommended a class immediately but 6 7 since Personnel needed time to get candidates qualified again, make sure everything was okay, they were saying they wouldn't 8 9 have a class until October. Ideally we would have liked to 10 have the class earlier but we could not. So, I advocated to 11 the Commissioner that we pursue a class to reduce costs. 12 THE COURT: This was in '09. 13 THE WITNESS: This was in actually '09, fiscal 14 year '10. 15 THE COURT: Right. 16 THE WITNESS: Last year. 17 THE COURT: And so, a class was announced? 18 THE WITNESS: No, we actually were looking for a 19 class -- we were looking for permission to hire a class. We 20 never received that permission. 21 THE COURT: Who would have to give you permission? 22 THE WITNESS: It's really OMB that gives permission. 23 THE COURT: I see. Okay. 24 Please go ahead. 25 MR. LEMONEDES: Thank you, Your Honor.

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Rush - direct - Lemonedes
                                                                  29
         I want to draw your attention back to B-1.
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    Q
 2
               Looking at fiscal year '10, you were under head
 3
    count by 81, correct?
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    Α
         That's right.
 5
    Q
         Okay.
                Now --
    Α
 6
         Yes.
 7
               THE COURT:
                           Is this at the beginning of FY '10?
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               THE WITNESS: That's right.
9
               THE COURT: Okay.
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               THE WITNESS: So, we were looking for a class as
    early as August of FY '10.
11
12
    Q
         To try and fill in this 81?
13
         To -- at that point in time we were still over quota,
14
    okay, but it takes a class 18 weeks to get through. We
    project forward so we say, okay, where will we be four months
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16
    from now, four and a half months from now, 18 weeks, and
    therefore we draw up our hiring assumptions based on future
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18
    attrition. So, we try to keep ideally at least to authorized
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    strength, sometimes over but, you know, at this case we were
20
    not looking to go over, we were just trying to get to
21
    authorized strength.
22
         And the reason that you made that recommendation is
23
    because money was now being restored to keep these fire houses
24
    open?
25
    Α
         Correct.
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- 1 Q So, another way that budget could have been decreased is
- 2 by altering the budgeted head count, is that right?
- 3 A That's correct.
- 4 Q So, if fire houses had been closed, the budgeted head
- 5 | count would have been reduced from 8,654 to a smaller number?
- 6 A That's correct.
- 7 Q With a smaller number then you might have been closer to
- 8 | being at full manpower or higher?
- 9 A We would have actually been in an excess condition which
- 10 | we would then attrit (ph) down by not hiring.
- 11 | Q So, then at that point a request was made given the fact
- 12 | that the fire houses have continued to be open for an
- 13 | additional class?
- 14 A Correct. In fact, we laid out our hiring plans which
- 15 | were modest for fiscal year '10 and we laid out a need for 200
- 16 to 250 firefighters over two classes.
- 17 | Q Okay. Ultimately that proposal -- is that called a
- 18 personnel action request?
- 19 A Yeah, it's called a PAR, we call it a PAR. The PAR has
- 20 to go over to OMB requesting approval to hire and we then give
- 21 | them the background analysis. We work closely with OMB so we
- 22 | both try to understand.
- 23 Q Okay. Now, let me take you to --
- 24 THE COURT: Can I just ask a question about that.
- 25 In terms of what you provide to OMB, does that include a

discussion of why you have the need beyond the numbers; in other words, are there other considerations such as the potential for creating a more dangerous working condition or putting the public at risk in not hiring or is this strictly, pardon the expression, a numbers crunching exercise?

THE WITNESS: It is a numbers crunch exercise.

THE COURT: Okay. All right. Thank you.

MR. LEMONEDES: Thank you, Your Honor.

Q Turning to Defendant's Exhibit B-4, take a look at that. Can you tell us what that is?

A Okay. This is an attempt to look at delays in hiring classes strictly without any external factors inhibiting our ability to put a class in and so what we try to do is say assuming a baseline condition where what we'd like to do, in which what we'd like to do this fiscal year assuming, yeah, no inhibiting factors like closing companies or staffing reductions, we would have liked to put in a class of 300 to 312 in August, I think we actually set the date as August 30th because of again personnel being ready or -- and then another class in January of 300. That would be our hiring needs for the year absent any budget exercises on reducing head count.

Q Any of those PEGs?

A That's correct, absent those. So, I just tried to do it to be responsive to the concerns that were raised, we went back last week and we were working on various analyses trying

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to show what it cost or what it saves. So, we just ran the numbers out by saying, okay, let's say you delayed the class from August, September/to November.

Q Okay.

A Or you delay it to December or to January, we did it all the way to June. The numbers that you look at, assume -- let's say you go over to the June column, you would look at June as a column going down. So, I wouldn't look -- you don't look at the numbers going across, look at the numbers going down. So, in June what we would be saying is that in fiscal year 2011 we actually save money by not hiring to the tune of \$5.7 million.

However, that delay has now forced us to delay future classes. Now we can only hire one class now because it is June and the fiscal year is over so you can only hire a class of 300. The next class of 300 would be hired five months later. The next class that you had planned to hire would be hired five months later, you know. So, each class is delayed based on how far you delay from the baseline condition in the summer.

- Q So, if you're not permitted to hire until June, what would the projections come out to?
- A Overall what we project before we caught up it would cost the city \$65 million.
 - Q So, going down to fiscal year 2012, by the end of that

Rush - direct - Lemonedes 33 year the over -- the costs to the -- the net costs would be 46 1 2 million? 3 If you delayed classes to June. That would mean if you 4 delayed classes to November, let's say, the net cost would be, you would just take the 1.684,924 and the 10,622,222, that 5 totals roughly 12.2 million would be your costs delaying it to 6 7 November. 8 I'm sorry, that's November of 2011? THE COURT: 9 THE WITNESS: That's right. So, by delaying the 10 class two months we're creating more overtime costs. 11 THE COURT: And so, how long does it take from the 12 time someone enters the academy until the time they're on 13 board as a firefighter? 14 THE WITNESS: 18 weeks. So, this is delaying a class till when? 15 Q 16 In this case if we just delayed the class two months 17 we're feeling the impact of that. 18 Q So, if we delay it from August 30th to October 1st? I didn't run out that scenario but it would be somewhat 19 20 less than \$12 million. 21 Q Okay. And that rolls out higher every --22 Absolutely. Α 23 Q The longer you delay the class, the greater the cost will 24 be by the time you've caught up? 25 Α Right, because two things are happening, you're delaying

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- 1 classes, new attrition is occurring which makes your needs --
- 2 the vacancies greater and you're not filing them which is
- 3 driving your overtime costs up. So, initially when you look
- 4 | at June you say, well, it's a surplus condition, well, that's
- 5 because in that particular year you're saving on the cost of
- 6 | not hiring probies, 18 weeks of probie training is essentially
- 7 lost from an efficiency standpoint to the budget. You have
- 8 to --
- 9 Q So, what you're saying to me then is the money that you
- 10 | would be --
- 11 MR. LEMONEDES: Did I interrupt Your Honor?
- 12 | Q So, what you're saying to me then is the money you would
- 13 be spending on a probationary class you are instead spending
- 14 | on overtime?
- 15 A That's right.
- 16 Q But you're going to need to spend that money on a
- 17 | probationary class at some point?
- 18 A Eventually you'll have to hire a class and pay those
- 19 costs, yes.
- 20 | Q So, you're just deferring those costs?
- 21 A Deferring the payment.
- 22 MR. LEMONEDES: Did I interrupt Your Honor on
- 23 | something? No, thank you.
- 24 Q Turning to Defendant's Exhibit B-5.
- 25 A B-5 just attempts to summarize the same information in a

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1 different fashion.

- 2 Q So, tell me how this does this?
- 3 A So, here we show what the normal condition would have
- 4 been for hiring. If you go down to where it says classes
- 5 delayed to and then it says normal condition. For fiscal
- 6 | year '11 we're saying the normal condition -- now, again, this
- 7 | is without any inhibiting constraints on the outside, the
- 8 | normal condition would have been 312 firefighters and another
- 9 class of 300. In the next fiscal year we would then hire 211
- 10 | firefighters in July and another 208 firefighters and that's
- 11 | fiscal year '12.
- 12 Q Just so that I understand, you're looking at the second
- 13 group of columns?
- 14 A That's right.

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- 15 Q I'm looking under FY '11, it says August and then there's
- 16 parenthesis 312; you're telling me that's under normal
- 17 | conditions you would have a class of 312 then?
- 18 A Right, so we're trying to establish a baseline to compare
- 19 off of so you have to have some basis to compare your numbers
- 20 to, so we said let's pick August as our starting point where
- 21 | we would have hired, then what would we have done for the next
- 22 | class and then we looked at attrition assumptions for future
- 23 | years, took modest assumptions on attrition and played it out
- 24 | what would we be hiring in the out years.
 - Q And so, what are the costs?

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A So, if you look at delaying a class to November, it costs you \$12 million. Delaying a class to December, \$20 million, etc., you just go down up till June where it would be a \$63 million cost to the city. That's net of salary savings.

Q So, at some point does the budget concern become if we delay too long, does there become a determination as to whether you should be starting a class at all within the fiscal year?

A When we get later into the fiscal year that's the time when we come up with budget reduction targets and could well be that the budget reduction targets again may say close engine companies. In fact, if you looked at the budget for next year, which is not official and so it's not adopted, there is no funding for 20 fire companies in there.

Q Presently?

A To start with we don't have that funding there now. That's -- we're not building our budget on that assumption right now and nor is OMB, we're assuming that we needed a class right now but that is an assumption in next year's budget.

So, on top of that we'll probably have an exercise to reduce our budget even further. So, that again we'll go through the exercise of looking at revenue initiatives, user costs, things of that nature but ultimately we'll wind up in the same place we've wound up in the last couple of years,

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Rush - direct - Lemonedes 37 looking at closing companies of some sort, there's no way 1 2 around it for us to make those targets. It does not mean that 3 the city is going to implement those targets but that's what the Fire Department needs to do to achieve the numbers that 4 5 they're requesting of us. THE COURT: Is that even assuming that this 312 6 7 person class goes forward next month? 8 THE WITNESS: Assuming -- I'm not following. 9 THE COURT: Let's assume that the class that's been 10 called goes forward. 11 THE WITNESS: Correct. 12 THE COURT: You would still have to engage in a 13 process of determining what cuts you would need to meet 14 certain budget targets? 15 THE WITNESS: Yes, Your Honor. THE COURT: And let me ask you this if I may, your 16 17 memo of July 2nd, 2009, at what point did the OMB turn you 18 down for that 2009 class? 19 THE WITNESS: Ultimately it was a lot of back and 20 forth and discussions including City Hall with the 21 Commissioner and we really received word like in November. So, there was back and forth, in November they said we're not 22

THE COURT: I see. And was there any consideration given with respect to the July 21st, 2009 decision in this

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going to hire a class.

Rush - direct - Lemonedes 38 1 case having to do with the disparate impact of the two tests 2 prior to 6019 as to whether there was anything that --3 anything that needed or could be done to deal with the issues 4 that were raised in that case, was that part of the discussion? 5 6 THE WITNESS: I was not part of any of those 7 discussions. 8 THE COURT: All right. Thanks. 9 Q Going to Defendant's Exhibit B-6, can you tell me what 10 that shows? Again, this is one of I think the questions raised and it 11 12 says --13 Q During the Court's transcript? 14 Right, in the transcript and the questions you sent over to me. What this looked at is, well -- it said, well, you're 15 delaying, you delayed hires last year, didn't that cost you 16 17 money and so we again played out what we would have done in 18 the last fiscal year and we would have had a class in August 19 and a class in February as we originally recommended to Commissioner Scoppetta in my memo, even though we couldn't 20 21 have had the class but we said ideally this is where we wanted 22 to be so what does that mean. 23 So, by not hiring the class, again in the first 24

fiscal year it said you're saving -- you're saving on overtime costs actually. You're actually creating overtime costs by

not hiring the class but if you had hired the class, what this exercise attempted to do, if you had hired the two classes, you would have saved \$11 million in overtime, \$11,177,368 to be exact. However, if you would have hired the classes you would have paid out \$12.7 million in salary costs. So, in fiscal year '10 it would have cost you money.

Fast forward now, now we're into fiscal year '11 and in July it is showing that now you're paying the freight on that because you haven't hired that class and the overtime is going up and it's exceeding the salaries. So, we're now into July and it shows there's a cost of 1.4 million. Those costs can keep growing as we don't hire.

THE COURT: But the city was aware when it decided to postpone those two classes that the outcome of that would be at least in the middle term that there would be a net cost to the city as opposed to a net gain to the city?

THE WITNESS: Correct. We, you know, I think the decision was, and it's understandable given that we were thinking about closing companies, they didn't want to be in a position of hiring firefighters. Ultimately the decision was overturned -- was changed and so they knew there was a potential cost for that.

THE COURT: So, that was a management decision?

THE WITNESS: Correct.

THE COURT: It had nothing to do with safety issues,

Rush - direct - Lemonedes 40 at least as far as you know, that by not hiring a class that 1 2 there would be some sort of adverse effect to public safety? 3 THE WITNESS: No, Your Honor. 4 THE COURT: Okay. Next. 5 MR. LEMONEDES: Thank you. Now, as a result of that, has that not increased the need 6 Q 7 to end up having an academy class now? Well, we're now in the current state and, you 8 Right. 9 know, again, you know, from the budget perspective we -- the 10 20 companies have now been restored in the budget and we again feel and OMB concurs a class is very much necessary. 11 12 Okay. For the reasons before except more exacerbated, is 13 that fair to say? 14 The attrition is growing and that means the overtime is 15 growing. 16 THE COURT: So, that's another management decision? 17 THE WITNESS: To put in a class. 18 THE COURT: Right. 19 THE WITNESS: Well, a management decision to reduce 20 costs, yes. 21 Right. Go ahead. THE COURT: 22 Going down to B-7, what is that? Q 23 Α I was just asked to provide the cost of a 24 probationary firefighter. 25 Q In response to some of the Court's inquiry?

Rush - direct - Lemonedes 41 1 Α That's correct. 2 And that's what you've attempted to do? Q 3 Α That's correct. 4 So, this is what the cost would be any time a group of firefighters is brought in through an academy class? 5 6 Α So, any time you're hiring a firefighter you pay 7 the salary of the firefighter, fully loaded with fringes in 8 that initial year is about \$87,000, 86,980, and then you're 9 going to pay instructor costs. Now, how we figure --10 calculate instructor costs, we have firefighters and officers 11 are in the fire houses who come in and serve as instructors 12 and those members are -- technically they're backfill because 13 we don't have positions established for them at the academy 14 where the training goes on. That creates overtime backfill, that's an additional cost. And the last piece of it is that 15 16 when you hire a firefighter you have to outfit that 17 firefighter, you have to buy bunker gear, helmets, work 18 station uniforms, the whole assortment of clothing equipment

So, returning to your earlier exhibit, this was why you would be saving some money if there had not been a class through June, right?

and the current cost for that is about \$5,000 per member.

Α That's right. Well, when we consider the savings we just looked at the salary savings, we didn't look at instructor savings or -- and, again, as I said earlier, these costs are

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going to be there at some point in time, we're going to have to pay these costs.

Q Okay. Can I turn your attention to Defendant's Exhibit B-8. Can you tell me what that analysis is?

A So, I had a thought that given some concerns that you related to me that potentially the list can be completely thrown out and would take two years to hire, two years to be ready to be in a position where you're going to hire.

THE COURT: Is that the presumption, that it will take two years to hire another class?

MR. LEMONEDES: One of the assumptions that I specifically asked, I can tell Your Honor, is based on what I'm understanding from the experts, it's very possible that it may take a year to 18 months to have a new exam in place with a new eligible list. It will then take another six months to process that eligible list and if that's what occurs, what would be the impact on the city. So, it was an inquiry that was made based on the information that counsel has had concerning this litigation and I thought it would be appropriate if Your Honor had the type of information that that could result in.

THE COURT: Just so we understand what this is predicated on, whether I accept the premise is a different story but --

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MR. LEMONEDES: Of course.

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Rush - direct - Lemonedes 43 1 THE COURT: But the witness certainly is fulfilling 2 your request, so. 3 MR. LEMONEDES: And I am --4 THE COURT: This is not a reflection -- that question is not a reflection on the witness, it is just a 5 6 reflection on the premise. 7 MR. LEMONEDES: Yes. 8 THE COURT: And on you and who you represent. 9 MR. LEMONEDES: Of course, and I'm --10 I'm not sure who you represent. THE COURT: MR. LEMONEDES: I'm attempting to give Your Honor 11 12 the information to help you make a decision. 13 THE COURT: Okav. Thank you. Go ahead. 14 MR. LEMONEDES: Thank you, sir. And given that premise, whether it is accepted or not, 15 Q 16 what would the outcome be? In this analysis I tried to say, okay, let's try 17 18 to build in some inhibiting factors and the one inhibiting 19 factor I tried to build in was delaying the class till 20 September of 2012 but since the financial plan as stated has 21 the reduction of 300 firefighters beginning February 1st, 22 2001, which may or may not occur at that point because it 23 requires discussions with the unions and negotiations, but I 24 built that assumption in that there would be 300 less 25 firefighters in the mix to somewhat reduce the costs of this.

By delaying the class two years a whole number of things happen. We're running up more and more overtime and as we show, by delaying the last class to 2012 then we're in a condition where we're probably in the neighborhood of 1,200 firefighters below head count. So, it is going to -- being that far below head count, we're going to have to put classes in starting in September 2012 of 300 to catch up.

Now, as you're putting in classes, you're also losing people at the rate of about 40 per month, 50 per month. So, as you put in a class that takes 18 weeks, you only get the benefit maybe of two-thirds of that because -- or one-third of that class so it is going to take you a long while to catch up with head count.

So, given that build-out and assuming no other factors, we laid out the costs and the overtime would go up over the period of time it would take us to get back to full strength would be 2015 fiscal year, the overtime for that period for those -- for that cumulative period would be approximately \$250 million offset by salary savings of 129 million for a net cost to the city of \$119,000,531.

By the way, that does not take into consideration the fact that as overtime increases, more members who are pension eligible earn extra overtime, they may retire in excess of the normal attrition numbers. So, the numbers we play out here don't build that assumption in. After 9/11

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- 1 | there was a lot of overtime in the Fire Department,
- 2 subsequently after that a lot of members made a lot of
- 3 | overtime and it made financial sense for them to retire
- 4 | because once we started hiring again the overtime was going to
- 5 go down.
- 6 Q So, what you're suggesting is if overtime needs to be
- 7 carried for a significant period of time as from as managerial
- 8 | point of view, you might be confronted with a situation where
- 9 | attrition increases because now firefighters have had a larger
- 10 | salary for a period which makes their pension more --
- 11 A Attractive.
- 12 Q -- attractive, is that accurate?
- 13 A That is.
- 14 THE COURT: Well, we're talking about apples and
- 15 oranges, if I may, are we not? You're talking about the cost
- 16 to the pension system which is certainly a consideration but
- 17 | you're also talking about your expense budget costs in terms
- 18 of the fire fighting force that you will have in place in
- 19 | let's say three years which may be less senior, so those
- 20 persons will be making lower salaries. So, there is an offset
- 21 to retirement and that is that you will be bringing in new
- 22 | firefighters at a much lower salary level at least at the
- 23 beginning, right?
- 24 THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 25 THE COURT: You figured that into the process too?

Look, I'm not saying to you that one thing is better than another thing, I'm just saying these numbers are subject to you have to take a critical view of the expense budget numbers but that's not the Court's main consideration, as you're well aware, as I said earlier when you were in the room. So, I'm pleased to receive this information but, you know, the costs of this in terms of the city pensions and the amount of overtime, it's interesting but doesn't it really cry out for an early resolution of the question of creating a new test from a budgetary standpoint.

THE WITNESS: The sooner -- if you were going to put a new test in, obviously the sooner we had that list established the better.

THE COURT: Okay. Let's continue.

Q And along those same lines, if there was a greater and greater increase in the attrition rate, do you become more concerned about from a managerial point of view about what's going on with the Fire Department?

A Absolutely. If you run out -- when we ran out the numbers where we get to the lowest level, at some point we'd be down to about 7,500 firefighters, roughly a thousand -- 800 below the authorized strength because I'm taking 300 lines down by the roster staffing reduction in the engine companies. So, at that level you are now having a difficult time on a daily basis, on a tourly basis fielding firefighters to work

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that overtime. You're running overtime tours in excess of, depending on the time of year, 300 to 350 firefighters per tour. Firefighters, like other employees, like overtime but when you get beyond a certain level, it becomes difficult to get the people you want to work the overtime because they may be not working that tour so you have to call them from home, they may not be available. So, what happens is the people that are most available are generally the people who are closest to pension eligibility, so it's a vicious cycle. We've had it happen more and it's affected us in losing personnel in all different ranks by delays in hiring because of -- a lieutenant's list was delayed because it wasn't promulgated timely by DCAS, etc., etc.

(Continued on next page.)

48 THE COURT: Mr. Lemonedes, are you going to have a 1 2 witness -- I don't see a witness on your list, are you going 3 to have a witness to discuss the operational issues attendant 4 to the witness' last answer? 5 MR. LEMONEDES: I wasn't planning but I can certainly look into doing that. 6 7 THE COURT: How much more do you have? MR. LEMONEDES: Actually, not much more. 8 9 DIRECT EXAMINATION (Continued) BY MR. LEMONEDES: 10 11 Turning to Defendant's Exhibit B-9, can you tell us what 12 that is? 13 This is a document that the Office of Management budget 14 puts together. It does similar things that we do on monitoring head count levels and active head count versus 15 planned hires and actual hires. 16 So as I'm looking down the list I see these PARs. 17 18 that the PARs we talked about? 19 Α Personal action reports that go over to OMB to request a 20 class. 21 Q So this is when you are requesting classes? 22 Yes, that's right, that columns represent when the fire 23 department has requested a license Florida OMB. 24 Q This would be consistent with your memo showing in 25 November -- is that a hundred, is that consistent with your

49 1 memo there requesting people? 2 That is one year later. They didn't roll out the numbers 3 then. 4 Ŋ I see. Going to the next exhibit, B-10, can you tell us 5 what that is? 6 7 This is the summation of the exercise when we go through the program to eliminate the gap in the fall, November 8 9 December. Each year I think the City is required to come out 10 with a four-year financial plan that looks of the remainder of 11 the count fiscal year, in this case fiscal year 2009 and four 12 years out so it goes to 2013. 13 So this is the document that basically summarizes 14 what the actions were approved or put in place for the Fire 15 Department's budget in that fiscal year and beyond. So it's a 16 summation of all the budget reductions that we are facing, all 17 the revenue enhancements that we are implementing and various 18 other technical adjustments to the budget, things like 19 collective bargaining, et cetera. 20 Can I draw your attention to the page marked B-6, 21 specifically to the two items that have been marked. 22 Can you tell us what they mean from a budgetary 23 concern? 24 In that fiscal year we put out a budget that required us 25 to start closing certain fire companies at night beginning in

50 1 January of 2009. So that was the first part of the reduction 2 and the savings associated with that and then effective 3 July 1, there was a plan to close an additional 12 companies. 4 THE COURT: Did you actually do that? THE WITNESS: We actually put in place the plan to 5 6 close the companies at night but due to the fact that at that 7 point in time we had excess staffing, it didn't make any sense 8 to close the companies at night. The other part of the cut 9 which was 12 companies which later into that year became 16 10 companies in the springtime, they added four companies and 11 that whole reduction was night. 12 So those proposals were not related to THE COURT: 13 -- they were related to what you believed or at least the OMB, 14 right? 15 THE WITNESS: Yes. THE COURT: OMB believed were the appropriate 16 17 staffing needs of the Fire Department, it was not an issue of 18 the budget itself? 19 In other words, their plan was that they could cut 20 these, the evening, the nighttime personnel and the 12 fire 21 companies, that was a strictly budgetary issue, it had nothing 22 to do with public safety in their opinion, well, in the city's 23 opinion? 24 THE WITNESS: Yes.

THE COURT: But it didn't happen?

51 1 THE WITNESS: Did not happen, no. 2 THE COURT: Let's go on. 3 Q This was one of the PEGs? 4 Α Yes. Going to the next Exhibit B-11, this is the adopted 5 6 expense budget, the adjustment summary? 7 Right, and this -- now we're into July -- June of '09 and in that point in time this is when the money was restored to 8 9 keep those -- keep the companies in place. 10 Q That's what we just talked about? 11 So the night closing issue is put aside and the 12 closing of companies is put aside, the money is found to keep 13 he companies open. So the budget was what you said restored before? 14 Yes, the restoration of the companies. 15 16 Now going to B-12. I draw your attention to the last 17 page of the exhibit. Tell me what it is generally and what 18 those portions would mean to you? 19 Α In the spring of each year, April, the final budget 20 negotiations begin and that starts with the mayor coming out 21 with his executive budget. 22 So every April late April, early May the mayor 23 releases his executive budget. January he does the 24 preliminary budget, April the executive budget. That is his 25 final budget for the years subject to negotiations with the

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1 City Counsel. When he delivers the executive budget, there is 2 also the message of the mayor and prepared by OMB there are a 3 lot of facts and figures on the state of the City, the 4 economy, the budget, et cetera, and it has a section on each of the agencies, what are going to be happening to those 5 6 agencies in the coming fiscal year. 7 Going to the last page again. At that point which was several months ago on the table 8 9 for reduction were the elimination of the fifth firefighter 10 post at 16 engine companies and the elimination of four 11 companies in the Fire Department's budget. However, since 16 12 companies were not already in the budget, effective July 1 the 13 mayor's budget proposed, the City's budget proposed the 14 closing of 20 companies. 15 THE COURT: But this had to do with budgetary and management decisions or proposals, it had nothing to do with 16 17 this litigation as far as you know? 18 THE WITNESS: That's correct. 19 THE COURT: Next. 20 Q Going to B-14, what is that? 21 B-14 again is similar to the earlier exhibit where it 22 shows the restoration of the funding, 20 companies were 23 restored. So the fifth firefighter position was not restored 24 and that is scheduled to be implemented February 1, 2011.

THE COURT:

Anything else for this witness?

MR. LEMONEDES: Very briefly.

Q Rather than all of the different numbers that we have looked at, could you succinctly answer a few of the questions specifically that the Court was looking at.

Why is it that we would be need be to hiring from a budgetary concern? Why would we need to hire a class at this time?

A Again, to reiterate, the cost of a probationary firefighter is far less expensive than paying overtime to an average firefighter on the job, again, that twenty-one dollar versus 55-dollar an hour difference. From an economic point of view, hiring extra firefighters even beyond the levels we are suggesting, would make sense.

Q What is the basic overtime that this is costing us on a monthly basis approximately?

A Initially we're estimating about \$2 million. Again, the numbers you have to look at it on the long-term and that's what a couple of my exhibits attempt to do because in the long term, as you delay classes, you delay the next class, attrition keeps going, then you have to then field more overtime to meet your staffing needs on a daily basis.

We either have to staff the companies on overtime or close companies or reduce staffing. Those are the only alternatives.

MR. LEMONEDES: Just one minute, your Honor, and I

Rush/Cross/Seelev 54 1 think I'm pretty much done. I tried to move expeditiously for 2 you. 3 THE COURT: Thank you. 4 MR. LEMONEDES: Thank you very much, your Honor. Any questions from the United States of 5 THE COURT: 6 America? 7 MS. SEELEY: Very few, your Honor, to make sure that I understand a couple of these exhibits. 8 9 THE COURT: You may inquire. 10 CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MS. SEELEY: 11 12 The first one is very simple, Mr. Rush. 13 If you would look at Exhibit B-2 which is the exhibit that showed attrition. I just wanted to make sure you 14 15 understood. The attrition you are talking about here is only 16 17 from the entry level firefighter ranks, not from higher 18 ranking firefighters? 19 Α Correct. And then if we could look at Exhibit B-4 for a minute, 20 21 and I just want to make sure I understand how you came up with 22 these numbers. If we look at the column for November that we 23 looked at before on this exhibit where you show by this time 24 the fiscal year 2013, there is no cost and savings, it's 25 balanced out. Am I correct that is because as I believe is

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1 shown in Exhibit B-5, that the method you used assumes that

2 you could have hired all the classes you planned through

3 | fiscal year 2013 essentially on time? By the time you get the

4 | fiscal year 2013, you will have hired everyone you planned to

5 hire, is that correct?

A That's correct.

6

14

15

16

7 Q And if we look at the column, the last column on B-4, the

8 one for June that we were looking at before, the way that you

9 came up with those figures is by using the date shown in the

10 | last row on Exhibit B-5, right?

11 A Now we are delaying a class until June, so that means you

12 | are going to have salary savings for 300 firefighters, 312

13 | firefighters from August to June, and then you are going to

have a salary savings on another 300 firefighters originally

scheduled in January of this coming -- this coming January you

are delaying that until next fiscal year, you are saving on

17 | all those salaries.

18 Q My question is: In coming up for the numbers that you

19 show on B-4, what you are assuming is that the class sizes

20 that you have planned would stay the same, correct? You are

21 | not assuming that you will make up any of those delayed

22 | firefighters by hiring a larger class for instance than 211 in

23 | fiscal 2012, right?

24 A That is the assumptions of this model, correct. I have

25 actually looked at that same issue and you could indeed

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- 1 | accelerate some of the hires. It would mitigate some of the
- 2 cost but the numbers would be probably -- in the June
- 3 | instance, probably approximately \$5 million less. That
- 4 | analysis that I just ran but it was not in time to present.
- 5 Q Did you look at any analysis summing a class larger then
- 6 300 for any of these class?
- 7 A No, because 300 is the maximum number we can field in
- 8 given the time and space issues at our academy.
- 9 Q But you plan a class of 312 for the next class?
- 10 A It's a number that personnel sends out -- we usually plan
- 11 | 300. Personnel sends it requests sometimes in excess of the
- 12 | 300 number because within a couple of days in the academy
- 13 | people drop out and generally that 312 number, we probably
- 14 wind up with like 280, 290 that really stay with the academy.
- 15 Q To your knowledge, has the academy ever run classes of
- 16 | more than 312?
- 17 | A Not in my career with the Fire Department, which is 30
- 18 years.
- 19 Q Then I just had one other question about Exhibit B-7
- 20 which is the one dealing with the cost of training a
- 21 firefighter.
- 22 A Okay.
- 23 Q I just wanted to make sure I understand this. In the
- 24 | section labeled instructor cost per class and you come out
- 25 | with a little over 3.2 million there?

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1	A Correct.	
2	Q That cost doesn't depend on how many candidates it	
3	wouldn't be candidates how many newly hired probies there	
4	would be in the class?	
5	A It does. Generally there is a ratio roughly one to five	
6	but these numbers from predicated on approximately 39	
7	instructors which is a max class. When I say max class, I	
8	mean 300.	
9	Q And the total amount per probie trained that you come up	
10	with here essentially dividing the total by the 312 you plan	
11	to have going into this class, that is the total cost if the	
12	probably goes all the way through training?	
13	A Right, that is the salary cost that we have to pay in	
14	probationary school.	
15	Q So somebody who enters the class then flunked out or was	
16	terminated for whatever reason before they completed the	
17	course?	
18	A That's correct.	
19	MS. SEELEY: That's all I have now, your Honor.	
20	I would I don't think there would be any but to	
21	the extent that we have any questions after looking at the new	
22	exhibit we just got today and the underlying materials, I	
23	reserve the right to question Mr. Rush again.	
24	THE COURT: Very well.	
25	Mr. Levy.	

	Rush/Cross/Levy 58	
1	CROSS-EXAMINATION	
2	BY MR. LEVY:	
3	Q Mr. Rush, good morning.	
4	Isn't a fact that in 2003, in that one year the Fire	
5	Department hired 1196 firefighters?	
6	A I can't testify to the exact number but we did hire a	
7	large number of firefighters.	
8	Q Something in excess of a thousand?	
9	A We had probably three classes, maybe more, the classes	
10	were of shorter duration then.	
11	Q The classes have changed in duration up and down over	
12	time, isn't that correct?	
13	A They went up as high as 23 weeks for one class a couple	
14	of years ago, and we're back down to where we are at now,	
15	about 18. In the earlier period, we were at about 12 to 13	
16	weeks.	
17	Q So the Fire Department can do classes in 12 or 13 weeks	
18	as far as you know?	
19	A The way it's established right now is that it's 18 weeks.	
20	Q I understand that.	
21	A You are asking	
22	Q Your experience?	
23	A We would not be prepared to reduce them in training	
24	because we feel 18 weeks is essential to train a probationary	
25	firefighter.	

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1	Q I heard and I'm wondering if you've heard that actually
2	the curriculum is finished in less time, in the last several
3	weeks or months even, the firefighters have very little to do
4	at the academy?
5	THE COURT: This is really a question for the
6	academy not for Commissioner Rush.
7	If you'd like to call a witness or subpoena a
8	witness on that subject, I'll certainly consider it but I
9	don't think that it should not be the subject of
10	cross-examination.
11	MR. LEVY: Okay.
12	Q Commissioner Rush, the last class that the Fire
13	Department hired, was it July of '08?
14	A That's correct.
15	Q Now, the Fire Department could have hired a class in
16	December of 08?
17	A We if there were no outside factors, yes, that would
18	have been the original plan, yes.
19	Q Other than budgetary concerns, whatever they may have
20	been, there was nothing else impeding a hiring in December
21	'08, is that correct?
22	A Correct.
23	Q Had you hired in December '08, you could have hired
24	another class perhaps in March of '09, is that right?

18 weeks later, whenever that date would be.

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1	Q Late March of '09?
2	You could have had another class in August 09?
3	A All depending on attrition, but yes, based on the numbers
4	that we are throwing out. If there were no inhibiting factors
5	on the budget or no other factors, yes, we would be hiring.
6	Q And you could have had another class in December '09?
7	A Correct.
8	Q And presumably you could have had another class in March
9	or April of '10?
10	A We generally with the way the instruction is now with 18
11	weeks of training, we generally would have approximately two
12	classes in the year. You could get a third class in
13	depending.
14	Q So the fact that the numbers are what they are today is
15	the product of decisions that the City has made I use the
16	City collectively here, not maybe just you, me, maybe it's
17	OMB, maybe it's the mayor, but the City made decisions that
18	basically limited your hiring over this past two year period
19	and there could have been five classes, 1500 more firefighters
20	and no overtime issue confronting us today, is that right?
21	A That's correct, except we were inhibited by proposed
22	budget reductions.
23	Q Even though in some of these instances the budget
24	reduction had the possible or probable effect of raising your
25	costs overall or those decisions not to hire I should say had

- 1 | the effect of raising your costs overall in the long run
- 2 | because of projected attrition rates and the need for
- 3 | overtime?
- 4 A The thought process being that raising costs in the
- 5 | short-term to save in the long term. So you would have a
- 6 | short-term bump-in cost because you are paying more overtime,
- 7 then you drop the head count and you have those savings in
- 8 perpetuity.
- 9 Q This decision to decrease the staff on the engine
- 10 companies from five to four, that is in the current budget?
- 11 A Correct.
- 12 Q And that is in your calculations or not in your
- 13 | calculations?
- 14 A When I did the long-term calculation of the delay of the
- 15 class in two years, that is in there. The likelihood of it
- 16 | happening February 1st, that depends. It's in the budget but
- 17 | it could be challenged and likely will be challenged by the
- 18 union as to safety issues and which could require an
- 19 | arbitration and a hearing that could take over a year to be
- 20 | concluded. It could be negotiated.
- There are different possibilities but indeed, it is
- 22 in the budget right now.
- 23 | Q And the proposal is coming from the Fire Department?
- 24 A From the Fire Department, correct.
- Q And is it fair to say or as far as you know, is the view

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1	of the Fire Department that they could reduce staff from five
2	to four on those 16 engine companies without jeopardizing
3	public safety?
4	A That has been our feeling all along and 134 engine
5	companies already operate safely with four firefighters.
6	Q Is it also the petition of the Fire Department reflected
7	in various proposals, some of which I think are still on the
8	table, that you could also reduce firehouses without an impact
9	on public safety?
10	A The commissioner has testified before the City Counsel
11	numerous times about the closing of companies. He has said
12	that there would be an impact on response time and he did not
13	say that public safety would be jeopardized but certainly
14	there would be an impact, we would do our best to minimize
15	that impact.
16	Q The number of fires in the city, particularly serious
17	fires has been falling substantially over the last year, is
18	that true?
19	A The number of serious fires, yes, have been falling. All
20	told, there are about 26,000 structural fires per year.
21	THE COURT: And response time?
22	THE WITNESS: Response time is good.
23	THE COURT: Has it been improving?
24	THE WITNESS: It has been improving. Probably for

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structural fires, somewhere city-wide about four minutes.

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- Q As we talk about these numbers, just to give them context, what is the budget of the Fire Department?
- 3 A Approximately about 1.6 billion.

- Q And the number of firehouses that is consistently on the table for potential closing is 20, did I understand that right?
 - A The way it's structured is that when the City Counsel restores funding, and they did restore funding in an agreement the mayor when they adopted the budget for fiscal 2011, that funding is restored just for that fiscal year, the fiscal year we're now in. So effective next physical year, there is no money in the budget to support those 20 units but that will again have to be negotiated out with the counsel during budget adoption.
 - Q But it's the Fire Department's position that it would be effective in terms of its operations and its budget to close those 20 houses?
 - A The commissioner again has testified that he would rather not close companies at all but given the physical conditions, if he is required to close questions, he would try to select the companies which would have the least impact but there would be some type of impact on response times of that nature.
- Q By the way, when someone is promoted, and I'm thinking of your Exhibit B-2, let's say to lieutenant, do they continue to be -- do they physically go to the scene and fight fires?

A They do. They supervise the scene of the fire. So a lieutenant or a captain who would be on duty -- there is always a lieutenant or captain on duty with the firefighters when they respond.

Q So you included in your attrition numbers those promotions but they are not really off the scene, they are still on the scene, they are not retired, they are still part of the group there that is fighting the fire?

A Yes, but they are not part of the firefighter rank and therefore they don't fill a firefighter slot on the company so if we have to have five firefighters, you can't say the lieutenant will counts as one of those firefighters.

Q Right, but you are talking about how you set up payroll and how you categorize people?

A Actually, how we are required to staff companies.

Q That too, but can a lieutenant hold a hose?

THE COURT: Can we -- I'm going to ask that this afternoon we have someone here at the commissioner level, not the commissioner himself unless he wants to attend, he is most welcome to be here, but at the commissioner level who can go into these operational issues including the issue of overtime and how much overtime would create potential safety issues as opposed to the cost issues. But I need to have someone here this afternoon so we can finish this hearing this afternoon. And I don't think that this witness is the right witness for

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that discussion, and certainly it's not appropriate cross-examination.

Yes?

MR. LEMONEDES: If I can simply ask that we would have until next time to give me an opportunity to speak to whoever it is that I'm going to be presenting for a witness rather than my having to call somebody?

THE COURT: Why wouldn't they have the ability to just tell us?

These are not issues that these professionals who have had many years of service in the Fire Department, managing it, as firefighters and so on, couldn't just come in and tell us as if I was having lunch with someone.

The objective here is to get as much information as the Court can get about the kinds of issues that Mr. Levy is questioning this witness about for which he really does not have the, with all due respect, the operating expertise.

So we can discuss it more later but my belief is that you can run down the street to the Fire Department headquarters, I can walk over there and I'll bet there are a number of people over there who would be perfectly capable of coming over here, a five minute walk, to explain the answers to some of these questions.

It is not untenable to expect that they would be able to do so.

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Rush/Cross/Levy 66 1 Now, if you want some time to prep a witness and do 2 it at 3:00 in the afternoon, that is fine but I want to see 3 somebody here unless there is nobody around who could possibly 4 provide this information, which I strongly doubt, but I'll talk to you later about it. 5 6 MR. LEMONEDES: Thank you. 7 THE COURT: Go on. 8 Anything else? 9 MR. LEVY: I just want to make sure I understand one 10 or two other things, judge. 11 1 of them is you I believe testified that you advocated 12 the hiring of a class in 2009? 13 Α Correct. 14 At the time, from a budgetary standpoint, that would have been in your view a sound thing to do? 15 16 Yes. Α 17 Q And that did not happen? 18 Α Correct. 19 Now, with respect to the earlier periods and that period, 20 and the judge asked this question, I'm not sure we covered it 21 all, were any of those decisions not to put in classes the 22 four or five that might have gone in over the last couple of 23 years, were any of those decisions based in any way on this 24 case? 25 MR. LEMONEDES: Objection.

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1	THE COURT: I'll allow you to answer. It's a
2	broader question than the one I asked.
3	MR. LEVY: I'm sorry.
4	THE COURT: It's a broader question than the one I
5	asked, so I'll allow you to answer it.
6	THE WITNESS: Not to my knowledge.
7	THE COURT: Okay.
8	Next.
9	Q Do you know if the academy has ever had staggered classes
10	where some people go in the morning and some people go in the
11	afternoon?
12	A They sometimes do that when they are fielding a class as
13	large as 300.
14	MR. LEVY: I have nothing further.
15	THE COURT: Anything else from the City?
16	MR. LEMONEDES: Not from this witness.
17	THE COURT: As has been requested by the United
18	States, I'm going to leave open the possibility that the Court
19	may ask you to return to deal with some issues that may
20	present themselves after the parties have had a chance to look
21	at the statistics that you have provided.
22	Let me say this. First of all, commissioner, thank
23	you very much for your prompt handling of these questions and
24	the preparation of these exhibits. I think that it's helpful
25	to the Court to see them and to hear from you and the Court

Rush/Cross/Levy 68 1 also wants to say the following. 2 The Court appreciates the professionalism of 3 yourself, OMB, and other city officials in fulfilling their 4 duties, and the questions that are being asked here by me and by others is absolutely no reflection on the quality and level 5 of your professionalism and we thank you for participating. 6 7 THE WITNESS: Thank you, your Honor. 8 THE COURT: You are excused. 9 (Witness excused.) 10 MR. LEMONEDES: Does your Honor want the next 11 witness? 12 THE COURT: I'd like to talk about the question of 13 who the witnesses are. 14 Who is your next witness? Deputy -- Assistant Commissioner 15 MR. LEMONEDES: Queenan who had been here previously to address some of the 16 17 specific questions that your Honor raised during the 18 conference. 19 THE COURT: Then you have one additional witness that I am wondering about, Christopher Erath, PhD? 20 21 MR. LEMONEDES: Yes, doctor --22 THE COURT: Why is he a witness? 23 MR. LEMONEDES: Dr. Erath is a statistician and he 24 specifically is the individual who prepared the summary 25 exhibit which is summary Exhibit F. I think it's now F-1. Ιt

should be in your Honor's book.

It's my understanding that the plaintiff and plaintiff intervenors have acknowledged that the data that that exhibit provides, your Honor, is accurate and therefore this was basically going to be presented as a summary exhibit for your Honor to have and I wasn't necessarily requiring Dr. Erath to come on in for testimony.

I was going to use him because he is the basis for creating that document. I also have a declaration from him on how it was created. And certainly to the degree that your Honor wishes to hear from him, I can ask that he come in but given the agreement that basically exists between counsel, it was in order for me to get to document in.

THE COURT: Got it.

Can I hear from the plaintiff and plaintiff intervenor.

MS. SWEDISH: Your Honor, we have no objection to the accuracy of this exhibit as it was created in July, however, we do question its relevancy given the fact that the City had provided additional information about further processing and so the difference between the July exhibit and the current processing as of August 2, these percentages in Dr. Erath's exhibit are no longer as precise as they were then.

THE COURT: Let's talk about relevance first before

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we talk about accuracy because the primary question here is how is it relevant to this proceeding as opposed to other aspects of the case.

MS. SWEDISH: These exhibits deal with the candidates who have been disqualified in the processing of Exam 6019.

THE COURT: Anything from you Mr. Levy? Anything else?

MS. SWEDISH: No, I would also point out that the E series of exhibits were similarly prepared using the July processing data. We don't object to them however because the difference in candidate process is about 350, that doesn't have as great an impact on the percentages of the E exhibits because that looks like the pool of candidates as a whole, that 22,000 candidates, whereas the F exhibit is a much smaller.

THE COURT: Mr. Levy, anything from you?

MR. LEVY: Not by way of an objection. I would only say that I'm not sure what this material adds to the inquiry that is before the Court at the moment. Some of it has to do with the frequency of disqualifications and I don't know how that at this point is relevant, disqualifications on various grounds.

I think it may come up later at some point as an issue because I think there are serious questions about why

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blacks are disqualified at a greater rate than Hispanics and whites. That may be an issue that the Court may want to monitor but I don't see that it's particularly relevant right now.

The other piece which has to do with bonus points could be summarized in three words, minorities get more. And that's what the charts show. So the only possible relevance I can see to all this potential testimony and exhibits relating to bonus points is that if we were to do a selection procedure that was based on bonus points as opposed to an invalid test, we would not have a Title VII problem but it would be one way to go.

MR. LEMONEDES: One of the primary disputes between both plaintiffs, plaintiff-intervenors and defendant is the significant difference in asserting disparate impact based on actually hiring, actually given a piece of paper saying you are now a firefighter.

It is the City's position that in meeting your Honor's determination, what is necessary is that the firefighter, the candidate go through the selection process and be given an opportunity to become a firefighter.

What that candidate does with that opportunity is up to the candidate. That is very much what we are attempting to assert and present evidence to your Honor on that issue because it's highly relevant to the most significant dispute

that exists between plaintiff, plaintiff-intervenors and the City.

It's their insistence that it doesn't matter what happened in processing, you are required to have X number of minorities, X number of blacks, X number of Hispanics in each class. And that's certainly one of the presentations that have been made to your Honor in this case.

THE COURT: That is the U.S. Government's position?

MR. LEMONEDES: It had been their position in one of the letters that had been submitted to your Honor.

It is our position that all that is necessary is in fact the opportunity to be processed. And very specifically, it concerns, I can tell you, the summary judgment issue. For example, one of the problems that the City has in the summary judgment issue regarding 7029 and 2043 is that one of the things that Dr. Siskin does is he calculates the shortfall and says there should be somebody in that class when in fact the data shows that there were candidates, African-American and Hispanic, who had been processed, had been given the opportunity to go through processing but they dropped out, didn't show, didn't appear, and still there is a claim that that is discriminatory. And it's the City's position that that is not. And that's what this information is being provided to you for as concerns the dual issues that we are talking about. We're talking about the issues of the City's

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need to end up hiring and the ways in which the City should be hiring.

So this concerns the second aspect of what your Honor has been talking about. I would be happy to provide your Honor with a more updated version. I'm sure that could be run very easily and your Honor could have the most updated version to date.

I was simply attempting to move this process as quickly as possible.

THE COURT: I see.

MS. SEELEY: If I may, I would like to state for the record that I don't agree with counsel's characterization of the United States' position but I don't think that that is an issue for this hiring.

THE COURT: Right, it's not an issue for this hiring.

MS. SEELEY: Thank you.

THE COURT: The issue for this hearing is for the Court to determine the need for an immediate implementation of an academy class and to identify the factors that would speak either for it or would be neutral and whether we can wait beyond this fall and so it's to have information about the statistics about cost.

The Court also wants to have information about the operational needs of the Fire Department taking into account

Rush/Cross/Levy

the City's ongoing position that it could close firehouses without adversely impacting public safety, which has been the City's position according to this, the evidence that has already been presented here, it's been the City's position for sometime as to what would happen to candidates once they have taken the test and passed the written test, whatever the test may be, and the next steps in the process. That is really not the subject here.

I'm willing to take your evidence if you update it but I don't know that it's relevant and I'm going to reserve on the relevance question because I'll use it if I think it's relevant and I won't use it if I don't think that it's relevant, but certainly if you want to offer it, you can put it in. Just put in a more current version of it.

MR. LEMONEDES: I would be happy to.

THE COURT: And if the other parties don't object, then we'll just have it in the record for what it's worth.

MR. LEMONEDES: That is fine.

THE COURT: And we don't need a witness if you give me a declaration with it indicating that the person who created it is so and so and that it's current information as of a certain date and so forth.

Is that all right with you?

MS. SEELEY: Thank you.

THE COURT: Is that all right with you, Mr. Levy?

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Rush/Cross/Levy
                                                                    75
               MR. LEVY:
                          Yes.
 1
 2
               MR. LEMONEDES: I would be happy to.
 3
               THE COURT: Next witness.
               Does anyone want to take a short break?
 4
               MR. LEMONEDES:
 5
                               Yes.
               THE COURT: You do? Everybody else here is ready to
 6
 7
    go, Mr. Lemonedes.
8
               We'll take a five minute break.
               (Recess.)
9
               (Continued on next page.)
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	Queenan/Direct/Lemonedes 76
1	THE COURT: Please be seated.
2	MR. LEMONEDES: With the Court's permission,
3	Commissioner Queenan.
4	THE COURT: Come on up, commissioner.
5	I have a couple of housekeeping matters but you
6	certainly should make yourself comfortable.
7	THE WITNESS: Thank you.
8	THE COURT: You may swear in the witness.
9	DONAY QUEENAN, having been called as a witness,
10	first being duly sworn, was examined and testified as follows:
11	THE COURT: Just state and spell your full name for
12	the record.
13	THE WITNESS: First name D-O-N-A-Y, Donay; last name
14	Queenan, Q-U-E-E-N-A-N.
15	THE COURT: Thank you.
16	Mr. Lemonedes, the Court has had a request from the
17	media for the exhibits that have been introduced and would you
18	please make those exhibits available to anyone who wishes to
19	have them.
20	MR. LEMONEDES: Certainly.
21	For the B series
22	THE COURT: For the B series, the ones that have
23	been admitted.
24	MR. LEMONEDES: Yes, sir.

Queenan/Direct/Lemonedes 77 1 Are you ready? 2 MR. LEMONEDES: Is there anything further that you 3 wanted to mention? 4 THE COURT: Did you find a witness for this afternoon? 5 MR. LEMONEDES: That's exactly what we are 6 7 attempting to do, to produce either the chief of the 8 department or the chief of operations. 9 I would ask with your permission to have some time 10 to do that, maybe 2:30 if that is all right. That would give 11 me at least an opportunity to have a brief conversation. 12 THE COURT: Yes, that is fine. 13 The question I have for Mr. Levy is whether you 14 might have --15 I suggested that I might take you up on your offer of a witness on the subject of operational issues from the 16 perspective of the fire officer but it's not a requirement and 17 18 I'm wondering --19 MR. LEVY: If that fits in, I think we might do it on a couple of issues. 20 21 I might call Captain Marshall. 22 THE COURT: Do you want to do that after this 23 witness or do you want to wait until after the commissioner or 24 chief of department testifies? 25 MR. LEVY: That might be better.

	Queenan/Direct/Lemonedes 78
1	MR. LEMONEDES: What?
2	THE COURT: After your witness testifies.
3	MR. LEMONEDES: Great.
4	Thank you, sir.
5	THE COURT: You may inquire.
6	MR. LEMONEDES: Thank you.
7	THE COURT: About how much time do you have with
8	this witness?
9	MR. LEMONEDES: Me, an hour, 40 minutes.
10	THE COURT: So we might go until after lunch.
11	MR. LEMONEDES: Okay.
12	THE COURT: If you are finishing up around 1:00,
13	1:15, we can just go right through and then you'll have some
14	time with your witness, your next witness.
15	MR. LEMONEDES: Thank you.
16	THE COURT: That is fine.
17	All the more reason to be succinct.
18	MR. LEMONEDES: I'll do my best.
19	DIRECT EXAMINATION
20	BY MR. LEMONEDES:
21	Q Again, may I present the witness with premarked exhibits
22	A-1 through A-10.
23	THE COURT: Did you want to say something?
24	MS. BURRELL: Yes, Exhibit A-1 through A-10, we have
25	two objections. One is with respect to Exhibit number A-4-A

	Queenan/Direct/Lemonedes 79
1	and A-7 through A-10 which is the same objection we had
2	earlier to the B series of exhibits which we only received
3	this morning.
4	We'd like to have an opportunity to review those and
5	reserve our ability to ask further questions based on those if
6	that becomes necessary.
7	THE COURT: Any objection?
8	MR. LEMONEDES: No.
9	THE COURT: I'll receive them when they are offered
10	subject to that condition.
11	MS. BURRELL: Thank you, your Honor.
12	We also have a substantive objection to Defendant's
13	Exhibit A-5, which is a document entitled candidates physical
14	ability test second edition.
15	This is a document that was on the defendant's
16	exhibit list for the validity hearing and was excluded based
17	on the United States' motion in limine.
18	We'd object to the admission of this document at
19	this hearing on the grounds that it's hearsay, contains expert
20	and lay opinion testimony and that it bears no relevance to
21	the issues that the Court is considering today regarding
22	whether the City can establish a need to hire firefighters.
23	THE COURT: If it's offered, I'll hear argument from
24	the defendant on it and then I'll rule.
25	MS. BURRELL: Thank you.

Queenan/Direct/Lemonedes 80 THE COURT: 1 Go ahead, Mr. Lemonedes, you may 2 inquire. DIRECT EXAMINATION 3 4 BY MR. LEMONEDES: Assistant Commissioner Queenan, do you remember that you 5 Q had previously given testimony to this Court before regarding 6 7 this case? 8 Yes. 9 I want to now draw your attention specifically to the 10 additional issues that have been presented by the Court during 11 the last conference. And in part of doing that I need to 12 begin by going back to your prior testimony. 13 You had talked about how the process works when a 14 candidate is now being considered and is given an opportunity to be selected as a firefighter. 15 16 Do you remember giving testimony about that? 17 Α Yes. 18 Just to try and cut to the chase, at that time you 19 mentioned something about a -- something being mailed out to 20 the candidate for the candidate to review and complete and 21 return? 22 That's correct, the application intake package. Α 23 Q Can I ask you to take a look at Exhibit A. 24 Α Sure. 25 Q And tell me what it is?

Jase 1	07-cv-02067-NGG Document 518 Filed 09/01/10 Page 81 01 201 Page1D #. 14583
	Queenan/Direct/Lemonedes 81
1	A This is the applicant intake package that is sent to the
2	candidate approximately four weeks before their first intake.
3	Q What is the candidate expected to do with this?
4	A The candidate is expected to read all the material
5	provided and to answer everything truthfully and honestly to
6	the best of their ability and to provide any documents that
7	are also requested at the time of their intake.
8	Q So the next thing if I remember from your prior testimony
9	was that the candidate comes to an intake and you mentioned
10	that.
11	During the intake, could you just briefly remind us
12	what happens?
13	A During the intake the candidates meet with various
14	investigators who go over the intake package with them to
15	insure its completeness and they also take copies of any
16	documents that they provide that present who they are, their
17	employment eligibility, citizenship, birth certificate, those
18	kinds of documents, driver's license.
19	Q So they go through what we now have as Exhibit A-1?
20	A Yes.
21	MR. LEMONEDES: I move for admission of Exhibit A-1,

- 20
- 21 MR. LEMONEDES: I move for admission of Exhibit A-1, your Honor. 22
- MS. BURRELL: No objection. 23
- MR. LEVY: No objection. 24
- THE COURT: Exhibit A-1 is in evidence. 25

Queenan/Direct/Lemonedes 82 (So marked in evidence Defendant's Exhibit A-1.) 1 2 Q Can I draw your attention to Exhibit A-2. 3 Can you tell me what that is? 4 Α This form is completed when the candidates are going to be fingerprinted for an FBI fingerprint. 5 So let me just be clear. Now we're talking about the 6 Q 7 point in time where the intake is occurring, the candidate is there at the facility at is given this form? 8 9 Α That's correct. 10 Q Who completes the form? 11 Α The candidate. 12 So the candidate is asked to give all of this Q 13 information? 14 Α Yes. Including self-identifying ethnicity? 15 Q 16 Α That's correct. What happens when the candidate completes this form? 17 Q 18 Α It's put into their investigation package and used when 19 we do the fingerprint process. 20 MR. LEMONEDES: I move for Exhibit A-2's admission. 21 MR. LEVY: No objection. 22 No objection. MS. BURRELL: 23 THE COURT: Exhibit A-2 is received in evidence. 24 (So marked in evidence Defendant's Exhibit A-2.) 25 Again now turning more specifically to some of the Q

	Queenan/Direct/Lemonedes 83
1	concerns addressed by the Court during the August 11
2	conference.
3	Let me draw your attention to Exhibit A-3.
4	Could you tell me what that is?
5	A This is a list of all of the candidates that have been
6	under consideration for the last two classes. This is
7	number 1 through 2121.
8	Q This is for the open competitive exam?
9	A 6019, open competitive exam 6019.
10	Q What does the printout indicate for us?
11	A The printout provides the candidate's list number, their
12	rates, their name and their current status.
13	Q That is the current processing status?
14	A That's correct.
15	Q I am looking down
16	MR. LEMONEDES: I move for admission of A-3.
17	MS. BURRELL: No objection.
18	THE COURT: Mr. Levy, any objection?
19	MR. LEVY: I just have an issue about completeness.
20	THE COURT: What? I can't hear you.
21	MR. LEVY: No objection.
22	Q Mr. Levy mentioned something about completeness. In an
23	attempt to address that, may I ask
24	Have I interrupted you?
25	THE COURT: No.

Queenan/Direct/Lemonedes 84 1 If you want to voir dire the witness on the exhibit, 2 that is your privilege. 3 MR. LEMONEDES: I just wanted to know whether it's 4 admitted or not. THE COURT: So you're offering it? 5 MR. LEMONEDES: Yes, I have offered it. 6 7 THE COURT: Exhibit A-3 is received in evidence. 8 (So marked in evidence Defendant's Exhibit A-3.) 9 THE COURT: I have a question. 10 The question is: Is this a public list or is this a confidential personnel list that should be sealed up? 11 12 There are a lot of names here and a lot of 13 information here about why people were found not qualified. 14 I'm not sure that this information is appropriate for public disclosure. 15 16 MR. LEMONEDES: I think that is exactly the point, 17 your Honor, and I should have presented that immediately when 18 I said I offered it. 19 THE COURT: All right. 20 MR. LEMONEDES: So I offer it and ask that it be 21 appropriately marked as confidential by your Honor. 22 THE COURT: Right, and it's available only to the 23 parties. 24 Go ahead. 25 I want to specifically address something which I think Q

Queenan/Direct/Lemonedes

Mr. Levy might be referring to.

I'm asking you to look down on our list and look down the one, two, three, four, five, six, seven, the eighth space down, row down.

You will see that there is no indication under the individual's race. And in answering my question, I ask that you do not give the list number, the individual's name or such identifying information about that person but could you explain for the Court why it would be that that information of the race identification would not be there on this document?

- A The candidate failed to report current investigation and therefore they could not self-disclose.
- Q So what we are doing then, what you are doing then is referring me back to Defendant's Exhibit A and because that exhibit had not been completed with the candidate listing ethnicity, there is no indication on Exhibit A-3 regarding the candidate's ethnicity, is that accurate?
- 18 A Because they did not complete Exhibit A-2.
 - Q Now, to again more specifically address some of the Court's inquiry during the August 11th conference, you had previously testified that the prior academy class concerning exam 6019 for the eligibility list for 6019 was composed of 220 candidates from list 6019.
 - Do you remember that?
 - A That's correct.

ALLAN R. SHERMAN, CSR, RPR OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

	Queenan/Direct/Lemonedes 86
1	Q You also indicated that there were 88 candidates from
2	promotional list 6506.
3	Can you tell us what promotional list 6506 is?
4	A Promotional list 6506 is a list of eligibles who took an
5	exam who were permanent emergency medical technicians,
6	emergency services technicians, and applied for took an
7	exam for promotion to firefighter.
8	Q They took a
9	Withdrawn.
10	They took an exam, a civil service exam in order to
11	be promoted from an EMT to an entry level firefighter?
12	A That's correct.
13	Q Can you tell us about 6506, how if at all is it different
14	than exam 6019 or entry level firefighters?
15	A The exam is exactly the same as is given to open
16	competitive firefighters.
17	Q What happens when an EMT takes the promotional exam 6506
18	and passes?
19	A They are processed basically the same way as the open
20	competitive candidates, however they are considered first for
21	appointment to class.
22	Q For example, if a candidate, if an EMT takes a
23	promotional exam, passes it, that EMT is considered for
24	employment before any of the candidates that are listed on the

open competitive exam 6019?

Queenan/Direct/Lemonedes That list must be used first, yes. Can you identify for the Court whether there are other candidates from 6506 who might be available to be hired at this time? There are 13 candidates that are available and qualified Α to be appointed at this time. (Continued on next page.)

Queenan-direct/Lemonedes 88 DIRECT EXAMINATION (Cont.'d) 1 BY MR. LEMONEDES: 2 3 So, what you're saying to me is that in addition to the 4 candidates that were hired off of 6506, during the July '08 academy class there are an additional how many candidates? 5 Α Thirteen. 6 7 Thirteen candidates that are from the list that was 6506 Q 8 promotional exam that would be qualified to come into the next 9 academy class? 10 Α That's correct. 11 THE COURT: Let me interrupt for just a moment. 12 When was the last time that 6506 was administered? 13 THE WITNESS: When we used the list? I'm sorry, I'm 14 not understanding the question. 15 When did you last give the tests for the THE COURT: EMTs who wanted to be fire fighters given at the time of 6019? 16 17 Have you given it since then? 18 THE WITNESS: No. 19 THE COURT: As you would for let's say returning 20 veterans? 21 THE WITNESS: That's correct. 22 THE COURT: Okay, thank you. 23 So, off of this list, from 6506, which is the same exam, O 24 you have an additional 13 candidates that could be moved into 25 an academy when the next academy occurs?

Queenan-direct/Lemonedes 89 That's correct. 1 Α 2 Are there additional candidates that are on the 6506 3 list --4 Α There are 48 ---- that could be further processed? 5 Q At this time there are 48 candidates on the list, 6 Α 7 however, they're still eligible for consideration, but they've 8 either just discontinued their investigation or they might be 9 in -- they're not being considered at this time. Generally 10 they have to continue their investigation. 11 Q Well, right now there's no further processing going on 12 for 13 That's right. That's correct. Α 14 So there's other people on this list, 48, that have different statuses? 15 16 Correct. Α 17 Q But that's where they stand? 18 Α Yes. 19 Q Okay. 20 To return to a question that had been posed by his 21 Honor just a moment or two ago about military exams, what is a 22 special military list? 23 Α Special military list is comprised of candidates -- or 24 eligibles that have passed the Civil Service exam, 6019, for example, but when their list number was reached they were in 25

Queenan-direct/Lemonedes

- 1 the military at that time so they could not accept
- 2 appointment.
- 3 Q So, for example, if the candidate who was number four on
- 4 our eligible list of 6019, is actually on active military
- 5 | service at the time of July '08, he would not have been able
- 6 to enter that class, or she?
- 7 A Would have not been able to enter that class, that's
- 8 correct.
- 9 Q So, what happened to that candidate?
- 10 A That candidate, when they return to service they return
- 11 | to DCAS, Department of Citywide Administrative Services, and
- 12 | they request to be placed on a special military list.
- 13 Q What does that do?
- 14 A DCAS returns the document and if they determine they're
- 15 eligible for placement on the list they're given a number,
- 16 placed on the list that must be used before we can use the
- 17 promo list or the open competitive list. So, they're given a
- 18 higher consideration.
- 19 THE COURT: So, you would process them first in line
- 20 before you processed anyone off 6019 or off the promo list?
- 21 THE WITNESS: That's correct, your Honor.
- 22 THE COURT: Go ahead.
- 23 Q The reason you do that is because had they not been
- 24 serving in some military, providing military service to our
- 25 country, they would have actually been in and been hired

Queenan-direct/Lemonedes 91 1 during the July '08 academy class? 2 That's correct. 3 THE COURT: But no, that's not what you said. They 4 would have been reached? THE WITNESS: They would have been considered. 5 THE COURT: They wouldn't have been hired 6 7 necessarily. 8 MR. LEMONEDES: I apologize, you're absolutely 9 right. I don't mean to make the distinction. 10 THE COURT: I understand. I want to put a finer point. 11 12 MR. LEMONEDES: I think you're right. I think it 13 is exactly correct. 14 THE WITNESS: That's correct. Q They would have been processed early on? 15 16 Α Yes. Are there people that are still on this special military 17 18 list at this time? 19 Α There are at this time eight candidates in special military list. 20 21 Q Give me a minute. 22 I would ask you to look at Exhibit A6 and then A7, 23 and then, if you can, A8 and A9. Tell me when you've had an 24 opportunity to look at them all. 25 (Witness reviews documents.)

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                                                                   92
              We'll start with A6.
 1
 2
    Α
         Okay.
 3
               (Counsel confer.)
 4
               THE COURT:
                           I'm sorry. Could you speak into the
    microphone. Can't hear you.
 5
 6
               (Counsel confer.)
                           Is this a sidebar?
 7
               THE COURT:
8
               MR. LEVY:
                           I'm just trying to find the document.
9
               THE COURT: All right.
10
               MR. LEMONEDES:
                                May I proceed?
               THE COURT:
                           Please.
11
12
               MR. LEMONEDES:
                                Thank you, sir.
13
    Q
         Can you take a look at Exhibit A6 and tell me what that
14
    is?
         A6 represents -- it is a spreadsheet that represents the
15
16
    various exams that should we have a class would comprise the
17
    next class.
                 It is a breakdown of the ethnicity of all of the
18
    eligibles that would be qualified for this class and the
19
    percentage of minority -- percentage that they represent from
20
    the total figures.
21
         So, what this actually represents is had a class gone in
22
    on August 30, this is basically what it would have looked
23
    like?
24
    Α
         That's correct.
25
    Q
         From the various different lists?
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Queenan-direct/Lemonedes	93
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- 1 A Correct.
- 2 Q So, the top one comes from the open competitive -- the
- 3 | top column comes from the open competitive list 6019?
- 4 A Yes.
- 5 Q And the second column comes from the promotional list
- 6 | 6506?
- 7 A Yes.
- 8 Q And the third column, is that the special military list?
- 9 A Yes. There are two.
- 10 Q So, those are people that had been or would have -- their
- 11 | processing numbers would have come up when academy classes for
- 12 2043 and 7029 were done; is that how that works?
- 13 A Yeah. The special military eligibles that are considered
- 14 here were people that would have come into the July class but
- 15 were not available, were in the military.
- 16 Q Okay. Now, that's people that had taken 2043 or 7029,
- 17 | right?
- 18 A Those are older exams, yes.
- 19 Q What happens when someone is out in the military
- 20 providing service and you administer an exam, for example,
- 21 | someone is in active military service while exam 6019 was
- 22 | being administered, what happens then?
- 23 A Well, when they complete their service they can report to
- 24 DCAS again and DCAS would review their documents and provide
- 25 them with another exam.

Queenan-direct/Lemonedes 94 And that's 1 Q 2 Then, if they pass that exam, their list number would be 3 inserted into 6019. 4 So, in essence, if someone The list number would be inserted into the 5 Α I'm sorry. 6 current exam. 7 Just so that I understand, if someone is out on active military duty when exam 6019 is being administered --8 9 Α Yes. 10 -- and given, that person comes back and says I wanted 11 to be able to take the exam, we give that person the exam, 12 6019, we score that exam and then we place that person 13 inserted into our list regarding 6019? 14 Α That's correct. So, that person isn't given a point number, like 15 candidate one, two, three, four, but is given a number that's 16 17 inserted somehow, right? 18 Α That's correct. They're generally a point something 19 number. So 65 point something? 20 Q 21 Α Yes. 22 THE COURT: That would take into account any 23 additional points that that individual would receive for 24

veteran status and the other considerations that the rules permit?

Queenan-direct/Lemonedes 95 1 THE WITNESS: Yes, your Honor. 2 THE COURT: Got it. MR. LEMONEDES: 3 Thank you. 4 Q Which would explain why if we look at our eligible list we see numbers that have decimals on it? 5 Α 6 That's correct. 7 Q Now, please take a look at Exhibit A7. 8 THE COURT: Moving that into evidence, A6? 9 MR. LEMONEDES: Yes, I apologize. 10 THE COURT: Any objection to A6? 11 MS. BURRELL: No objection. 12 THE COURT: A6 received in evidence. 13 MR. LEMONEDES: 14 Please take a look at A7. Tell me what that is. () This represents all of the candidates eligibles from 15 Α 60192 that are in the military and now not eligible for 16 17 appointment. 18 THE COURT: The term NQ doesn't have anything to do 19 with your processing, it simply has to do with their status as 20 an active duty person in the military? 21 THE WITNESS: That's correct. 22 THE COURT: Okay. 23 MR. LEMONEDES: Again, I will move for its admission, but ask that it remain confidential. 24 25 THE COURT: Any objection?

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MS. BURRELL: No objection other than the one we raised at the beginning which is we just received the list and have not had a chance to verify accuracy. We would like an opportunity to do that.

THE COURT: I understand. Subject to that limitation, A7 is received in evidence and it will be distributed only to the parties.

Q Can I ask you to look down Exhibit A7 under the column that lists race, and can you explain to the Court why there are candidates that do have race lists and others don't?

A Candidates with race listed appeared at sometime for investigation.

Q From the processing phase, the rosters or the spreadsheets that we have provided so far are all done from the fire department regarding processing?

16 A That's correct.

17 Q Can you please take a look at Exhibit A8.

18 A Yes.

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19 Q What is that?

A Represents the same thing. Those are also candidates
that are not -- were not eligible for appointment and that is
the word for military.

23 Q So, this is simply another military list?

24 A That's correct.

Q Or same kind of list?

M. BRYMER, RPR, OCR OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

Queenan-direct/Lemonedes 97 1 Same kind of list, yes. Α 2 And A9 --3 THE COURT: I'm sorry. A8 is received in evidence? 4 MR. LEMONEDES: I will do it for A8 and A9. THE COURT: Fine. 5 Q Tell me what A9 is? 6 7 A9 represents the same thing, for exam 243 another Α 8 earlier exam. 9 Q A8 concerns exam? 10 THE COURT: 7029. 11 MR. LEMONEDES: Thank you. 12 So, now I move A8 and A9, again with the same 13 conditions that your Honor just listed. 14 MS. BURRELL: Same conditions. No other 15 objection. 16 THE COURT: All right. Exhibits A8 and A9 are 17 received in evidence conditionally and with the understanding 18 that they will not be published beyond the parties. 19 THE COURT: Go ahead. 20 Now, I think basically the MR. LEMONEDES: 21 information that you provided is responsive to the Court and 22 I'll leave it to your Honor if you have any other questions 23 about these. I am just attempting to get this information in 24 as quickly as possible. 25 My next concern --

Queenan-direct/Lemonedes

1 THE COURT: Do you have A10 in?

2 MR. LEMONEDES: Not yet. Not yet.

THE COURT: You're getting there?

MR. LEMONEDES: I will.

THE COURT: Go ahead.

they meet certain age requirements.

Q One of the things that the Court was concerned about was expediting the processing of candidates. Can you explain is there some real way to speed up the processing for candidates?

A No, there really isn't. Inherent in the processing itself are time limitations. One of the things that we want to remember is that fire fighters are peace officers, therefore, they enforce the laws of the fire department. So, we need to make sure that they have -- they meet the requirements for peace officer, that they have integrity and

In addition to that, along with the -- going along with integrity is we would look at the candidate's character and background. That requires that we send out letters to educational institutions, employers, personal references to verify the things the candidates have disclosed in their candidate packages, also to determine if there are any discrepancies.

If candidates state they have convictions or arrests they're required to get dispositions. At times that may require the candidate may have to go out of New York State,

sometimes to Florida, sometimes to California to get those dispositions. Those are all things that are out of the department's hands. Once we advise the candidate that they must comply with getting these documents, the dispositions, we cannot -- there's nothing else we can do. It is the candidate's responsibility to get the dispositions.

With regards to reference checks from educational institutions and from employers, we send out the letters to the former employers and the educational institutions that the candidates have provided and we require that they submit information back to the department directly. That helps to avoid fraudulence in a document.

So, we actually rely -- we're at the hands of the employer or the educational institutions to get that information back to us.

In addition to that, we have medical exams that must be given, medical and psychological. The medical exam, once a candidate takes a medical basically has a month to resolve any issues that may be found by our medical officers that might possibly disqualify them for consideration. So, we're actually giving this candidate a benefit of a month to clear up any issues.

Q Can you give us an example of what you mean by that?

A Let's say a candidate has a -- appears they have a heart condition of some kind or there's a irregularity in their

Queenan-direct/Lemonedes

heart, they would be given time to go to their own medical doctor or their own specialist to come back and present documentation to our medical officers that would say whether they were qualified or not before they could proceed with this -- with the duty of a fire fighter.

Also, what must be conducted and is done simultaneously, actually -- sort of simultaneously is that when the candidate comes in they're advised they have to take the CPAT, candidate's physical ability test. What the -- that process itself is about ten week -- eight to ten week testing process. There are various intervals of things that must -- of things that must occur before the final exam is given.

What the fire department did in order to ensure the success of candidates in passing the exam was create a training program so when the candidates come in for intake they're offered to go to a training program. That program I believe is about 12 weeks long. That provides them with the physical -- physical things they need to do in order to pass the physical abilities test. It gives them strength training, it also provides them with a three-month free membership to the New York Sports Club so they can go and practice on their own before they go to the physical CPAT exam.

Q Okay. It is a lot of information you've just given us.

I remembered during your prior testimony that you mentioned a term called IBA? Does that sound familiar?

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- 1 A That's correct. That's investigated before appointment.
- 2 | Q What does that really mean?
- 3 | A It is all the process I was just talking about. Sending
- 4 the letters out and finding out all about the candidate and
- 5 getting confirmation on the information that they've provided
- 6 prior to their being appointed to the title of fire fighter.
- 7 Q We'll go back.
- 8 So, the candidate comes in, you do the fingerprint
- 9 | search, that's a certain period of time to do that?
- 10 A Uh-huh.
- 11 | Q You need to get information from the employer and the
- 12 | educational institutions?
- 13 A That's correct.
- 14 | Q Okay. So, who sends the letter out to them, why not just
- 15 | have the candidate do it sooner?
- 16 A Well, because we need to make sure it is going to the
- 17 | source and there won't be any fraudulence in the return of
- 18 documents.
- 19 It is just as an example not too long ago --
- 20 Q Stay closer to the microphone.
- 21 A Not too long ago there were issues with educational
- 22 | documents being fraudulent and thus receiving documents from
- 23 | schools that weren't valid schools. So, we're required to
- 24 ensure the validity of the documents that we're receiving is
- 25 | sent directly from the fire department to the employer and to

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- 1 the educational institution and they should be returned
- 2 directly to the fire department.
- 3 Q Let me go back to the next step, the physical exam. You
- 4 said for the physical exam, I thought I understood you to say
- 5 that there were two different time frames being involved. You
- 6 said something about time frame at the academy. What did you
- 7 | mean by that?
- 8 A The academy does the training. Fire department academy
- 9 provides training for any eligible fire -- fire fighter
- 10 candidates who wishes to avail themselves of the training.
- 11 | They're given hands-on opportunities to work on any of the
- 12 equipment, similar equipment that they will be tested on when
- 13 they take their CPAT.
- 14 Q How long does that process take?
- 15 A About 12 weeks.
- 16 Q So, a candidate can come on in and take the 12-week
- 17 | course before they take the physical?
- 18 A That's correct.
- 19 Q You mentioned the physical. Can I ask you now to turn to
- 20 Defendant's Exhibit A5. Can you tell me what that is?
- 21 A This is the candidate physical ability test book that's
- 22 given to the candidates for review prior to CPAT.
- 23 Q And is it a document that is maintained by the New York
- 24 | City Fire Department?
- 25 A I believe the training facility has it.

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Queenan-direct/Lemonedes 103 1 Q Okay. 2 Personnel resources. 3 Q That is the material that's actually given to each 4 candidate --Α Yes. 5 Q -- before they end up taking the physical? 6 7 Α I believe the training department does that. 8 MR. LEMONEDES: I move for the admission of A5. 9 THE COURT: A5, yes. 10 MS. BURRELL: Your Honor, this is the exhibit we In fact, A5 is hearsay, contains both expert and 11 12 lay opinion regarding the validity of the CPAT and it is not 13 relevant to any issue the Court needs to decide at this 14 hearing today. 15 MR. LEVY: Same objection. 16 Same objection. THE COURT: Yes? 17 I think it is specifically relevant MR. LEMONEDES: 18 to what your Honor is asked to decide. Your Honor is asking 19 whether there is a way to compress the time frame. 20 material that is in this material that is actually handed to 21 the candidates so they can end up passing the physical portion 22 of the -- in order to become processed is certainly material 23 that could be beneficial for your Honor, specifically the 24 information that's been provided and the information about the 25 physical itself.

Queenan-direct/Lemonedes 104 1 THE COURT: Anything else? 2 Yes. The document indicates that MS. BURRELL: 3 before taking the CPAT the candidate have a mandatory eight 4 week orientation session. United States does not dispute Ms. Queenan already testified about the time frame it 5 There's no reason to admit a document that contains 6 takes. 7 irrelevant hearsay at this hearing. We're not disputing the 8 eight-week orientation session. 9 THE COURT: Anything else? 10 MR. LEMONEDES: No. sir. 11 THE COURT: All right. I'm sustaining the 12 I have the witness' testimony about the time objection. 13 frame, the program, the -- what's the health club you send 14 them to? 15 THE WITNESS: New York Sports Club. 16 THE COURT: The New York Sports Club. I understand 17 the point. 18 MR. LEMONEDES: Thank you. 19 THE COURT: And we have testimony from the witness 20 which is -- doesn't create a hearsay problem. This is not a 21 document prepared in the normal course of business by the fire 22 department. It is prepared by an outside organization about 23 which I know nothing. 24 Go ahead. 25 MR. LEMONEDES: Thank you.

Queenan-direct/Lemonedes 105 Let me go back to -- I will find the ones I need. 1 2 THE COURT: Ten. 3 MR. LEMONEDES: Actually, I think that we are on A4 and A5 -- I mean A4 and A4A. 4 Taking a look at what is Exhibit A4, again without giving 5 Q us too much detail regarding any of the specifics on this, can 6 7 you tell me what Exhibit A4 is? A4 is a subset of the roster of 6019 of candidates that 8 9 are missing from numbers one through 2121 that were -- would 10 be interim numbers on Exhibit A3. Who prepared Exhibit A4? 11 Q 12 That was prepared by the fire department. Α 13 So, let me just try and put this back in context. Can I Q 14 ask you to take a look at Exhibit A3. Α Yes. 15 And place it next to or near for yourself Exhibit A4. 16 17 I'm going to ask you to look down at the second column across 18 on Defendant's Exhibit A3, under the list number column. 19 second row across. 20 You see between the first and second there is a gap 21 in list numbers? 22 Α Yes. 23 Now I'm asking you to go to Exhibit A4 and the second () 24 column being the first column is name, second column is

original list number and the third column is new list number.

Queenan-direct/Lemonedes 106 So, looking at the candidates listed here, what is it that's being reconciled and can you explain it a little further for me? Well, if you look at the Exhibit A3, you'll see list number one and then list number two is missing. I'm asking you to not specifically give me too much I simply wanted to know there is a gap? detail. There is a gap. The gap is filled in on A4? That's correct. And what A4 does is, if your Honor will permit, is it fills in the gap, it explains what happened to the candidate that moved from that position on one list and now has a new list number; is that right? That's correct.

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- It gives you the reason why over 16
- 17 Correct. They lost a point and therefore their list 18 number changes.
- 19 THE COURT: So, if you have someone who claimed to 20 be a veteran and was originally at let's say 24 on the list --
- 21 THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 22 THE COURT: -- in rank order and you learned -- and 23 you didn't receive the necessary paperwork to prove that DD 24 what?
- 25 THE WITNESS: DD 214.

Queenan-direct/Lemonedes 107 1 THE COURT: 214. I ran across mine recently. 2 THE WITNESS: Honorable I hope. 3 THE COURT: I wouldn't be here otherwise. 4 If you found that that person did not have the veteran experience, then that person would then be reassigned 5 to a place on the list based upon the removal of the veteran 6 7 credit? 8 THE WITNESS: That's correct. 9 THE COURT: That's fine. 10 Q There is another wrinkle, if I might, your Honor. 11 fact, selecting a veteran credit can be done by a candidate 12 even if he brings in the proper DD? 13 Α 214. THE COURT: 214. 14 Isn't it also true that candidate can say I don't want to 15 Q 16 use my veteran credit this time, I'm going to use it at another time? 17 18 Α That's correct. Candidates can only use their veterans 19 credits once in their life. So, in addition to not having the appropriate forms, it 20 Q 21 could be the candidate's desire or selection to change it? 22 Α That's correct. 23 THE COURT: Let me follow up on that. 24 Does that mean that veteran credit can be applied to another Civil Service exam --25

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THE WITNESS: That's correct.

THE COURT: -- that the person has taken and would prefer to work in some other agency of the City or State, that that individual can say I prefer working here rather than working there, therefore, I'm going to ask you to apply my veterans credit to this other list?

THE WITNESS: That's correct. You can apply to another exam, be it our agency or another one.

THE COURT: I see. Okay, thank you.

Q Now, I need for you to turn to Exhibit A4A and tell me what that is?

A These are the lists of candidates, list numbers one through 2121 who had a list number change.

MR. LEMONEDES: By the way, I move for A4, with all the limitations your Honor noted before about confidentiality and specifically preserving the government's position to question later on it.

MS. BURRELL: I would also note we have not received the underlying data that this document is based on so we request that in order to be able to verify its accuracy.

THE COURT: All right. Please provide the underlying data since you're providing the list. The plaintiff has a right to examine the data in order to determine whether the list is accurate, if you really need the data. I'm not sure that apart from what the data demonstrates

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Queenan-direct/Lemonedes 109 1 generally the data itself is necessarily useful to the Court, 2 but if you want it, either the City should provide it or 3 discuss it with the Magistrate Judge. 4 MR. LEMONEDES: Thank you, your Honor. THE COURT: Okay. I rather not go into late day 5 discovery. Although the City by providing this data is 6 7 opening up the question of its accuracy, and, so, you should 8 discuss that with the Magistrate. 9 MR. LEMONEDES: Simply again trying to provide your 10 Honor with the full information of what's going on so you have 11 it. 12 THE COURT: The real benefit is to explain to the 13 Court how the process works and I think that Commissioner 14 Queenan is providing that and this simply provides the context 15 for the Court. 16 MR. LEMONEDES: Thank you, your Honor. I think 17 that's exactly right. 18 THE COURT: The specifics of it are not really 19 relevant to the inquiry that I'm making in this discrete stage 20 of the litigation. 21 I appreciate that. MR. LEMONEDES: 22 THE COURT: Go ahead. 23 Q Looking at A4A --24 Α Yes. 25 Q -- tell me what that is?

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- 1 A A4A is an update --
- 2 Q Again, without giving us too much detail.
- 3 A An update of A4. On A4 we have some information we
- 4 clarified with DCAS and we were able to get to finalize what
- 5 | the actual status was of certain candidates.
- 6 Q So, A4 is based on the fire department's processing
- 7 | information, A4A is based on that plus information received
- 8 | from DCAS?
- 9 A That's correct.
- 10 THE COURT: How long does it take DCAS to provide
- 11 the information once you have a list, the original list?
- 12 THE WITNESS: I'm sorry. Do you mean the changing
- 13 | their numbers?
- 14 THE COURT: Well --
- THE WITNESS: Recalculating the numbers?
- THE COURT: Determining whether they've lost
- 17 residency or gained residency or lost veteran status or gained
- 18 | veteran status or lost legacy or gained legacy.
- 19 THE WITNESS: The fire department determines whether
- 20 or not they've submitted the appropriate documentation to
- 21 | validate the points that the candidate is requesting. So,
- 22 | that time frame again is dependent upon when the candidate
- 23 provides the valid documentation. Once that documentation is
- 24 | provided we notify DCAS and say this point should be removed
- 25 or added or whatever. I really cannot -- I don't know the

Queenan-direct/Lemonedes 111 exact time frame it takes for DCAS. 1 2 THE COURT: But their role is ministerial? 3 THE WITNESS: Uh-huh, yes. 4 THE COURT: Your role is proactive? THE WITNESS: 5 Yes. In addition to that, specifically to follow up on what 6 Q 7 your Honor is pointing out, are there instances in which someone goes to DCAS and alters their status somehow without 8 9 going directly to the fire department and telling you? 10 Α They may go to DCAS, yes. 11 So, in essence, the individual who came and reported to 12 you I want my veteran credit could end up going over to DCAS 13 and saying, Gee, I don't want it and that information has to 14 be reconciled? Α That's correct. 15 So, let's get to A10. Again, without giving me too much 16 detail on the information in it, tell me what it is. 17 18 Α This is a roster of the candidates on the -- remaining 19 candidates on the promotional exam 6506. 20 So, this goes back to one of the earlier questions Q regarding the promotional list from EMTs and this is the basic 21 22 status of those individuals is what you're saying to me? 23 Α That's correct. 24 MR. LEMONEDES: I again move for its admission 25 subject to all of the same limitations and qualifications that

Queenan-direct/Lemonedes 112 your Honor listed for the prior exhibits. 1 Subject to our same objection, we 2 MS. BURRELL: have no other objection. 3 4 THE COURT: All right. Subject to the limitations already set forth for other exam lists with names A10 is 5 6 received in evidence. 7 While we're waiting for the next question, let me ask a question. These different aspects of the process after 8 9 the person's name on the list is reached, they go -- they 10 operate in parallel, do they not? In other words, the 11 medical, preparing for the physical, the review of educational 12 background and the FBI records check, they're all happening at 13 generally the same time? 14 THE WITNESS: Yes, your Honor. 15 THE COURT: Which takes the longest? 16 THE WITNESS: The background investigations because 17 that's more or less out of our control. 18 THE COURT: Who does the background investigation? 19 THE WITNESS: It is Candidate Investigation Division. It is involved with sending the letters out and 20 21 gathering information confirming the information the candidate 22 provided. 23 THE COURT: That is an office of the fire 24 department? 25 THE WITNESS: Yes.

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1	THE COURT: Okay.
2	Q When you say "processing," you mean sending letters to
3	employers and the schools?
4	A And educational institutions, yes, and getting
5	dispositions from the candidate.
6	Q So, how long does it take to process a group of potential
7	candidates to reach a a subgroup of appropriately qualified
8	candidates for an academy class?
9	A Approximately six months.
10	Q So, if a whole new group was being presented to you
11	tomorrow, that would occur six months from now?
12	A That's correct.
13	Q In the group that's been processed, is there anything
14	that could cause people to be falling out of that group within
15	the next few months?
16	A A lot of things could happen within the next few months.
17	Q Such as?
18	A Most immediately is the expiration of medical exam. We
19	have basically the medical exams are good for a year and we
20	have candidates whose medical exams will be expiring the end
21	of August and again there will be more expiring in September
22	and so on. In addition to that, candidates the longer we

happen. They can be kicked out of the military, gone back to

during that period. They could be arrested. Anything could

wait candidates could have derogatory information surface

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Queenan-direct/Lemonedes 114 1 the military, been dishonorably discharged. A lot of factors 2 could happen. 3 THE COURT: And you said that the medical expires a 4 year from the time that it's given? THE WITNESS: It's basically a year from the month 5 -- we give them a month. They take their exam and then we 6 7 give them a month and from the end of the month it is a year. 8 THE COURT: When did you start processing medicals 9 for this class that -- that the City proposed for August 30? 10 THE WITNESS: Once we completed our last class July 2008, we continued processing because we anticipated there 11 12 would be another class in between, I believe it was January. 13 Then, when we didn't have that class we still continued 14 processing for the next class. So, medicals, we have done 15 some updates in between that, but now a good portion of them 16 will be expiring. 17 THE COURT: I see. And when you say the class that 18 was planned but was not convened in January, you mean January 19 2009? 20 THE WITNESS: Yes. 21 THE COURT: Go ahead. 22 So, just to make that point clear, when do you stop 23 processing?

25 Q Other than this unusual circumstance, when do you

Well, we're not processing now.

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Queenan-cross/Burrell 115 generally stop the processing off the list? 1 2 We don't. We never stop processing a list. It 3 continues. 4 MR. LEMONEDES: One moment. THE COURT: Sure. 5 6 MR. LEMONEDES: Just so our record is clear, your 7 Honor, I'm not confident I moved in A4A and I'm not sure the record reflects that you actually took A4. 8 9 THE COURT: A4 and A4A were received with the 10 limitations that were set forth with the other personnel 11 lists. 12 MR. LEMONEDES: Thank you, sir. No further 13 questions. Ms. Seeley, any questions? 14 THE COURT: 15 MS. SEELEY: Ms. Burrell. 16 THE COURT: I'm sorry. 17 CROSS-EXAMINATION 18 BY MS. BURRELL: Good afternoon. 19 () 20 Good afternoon. Α 21 If you could turn again to Exhibit A6. This document 22 shows that you proposed to hire 291 candidates for the next 23 academy class from the exam 6019 eligibility list; is that 24 right? 25 That's a part of the class, yes.

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1	Q So, 291 of the 312 would be pulled from the 6019
2	eligibility list?
3	A Yes.
4	Q So, with the exception of the mile and a half run, have
5	all of those 291 candidates been fully processed and found to
6	be qualified?
7	A Yes, they are ready to be made offers to.
8	Q And there are some other candidates on the exam 6019 list
9	who have been found to be qualified who aren't included in the
10	291; is that correct?
11	A If they were qualified and they would be part of if
12	they were qualified to go to the class they would be part of
13	the 291. The only reason they wouldn't be is if their list
14	number wasn't reached.
15	Q If you turn to Exhibit A3, which I believe you testified
16	is the list that shows the current processing status of
17	individuals on the 6019 eligibility list?
18	A Yes.
19	Q This list includes 300 people with the status of
20	qualified, doesn't it?
21	A I haven't done a count so I wouldn't know.
22	MR. LEMONEDES: Actually, I would like to ask for
23	clarification. Did you mean qualified or qualified appointed,
24	or there are several different qualifieds?

or there are several different qualifieds?

MS. BURRELL: I mean only qualified qualified with

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- 1 no other words or caveats.
- 2 A I didn't count so I can't say there were 300.
- 3 Q Okay. And did you prepare the summary Exhibit A6?
- 4 A This was prepared by my department, yes.
- 5 Q And is the race identification information that is
- 6 | indicated on the summary taken from the processing list,
- 7 | Exhibit A3?
- 8 A It is actually -- what's here is taken from the
- 9 | fingerprint page that was an earlier exhibit and it is entered
- 10 | into a database and the information is pulled from that
- 11 database to get this document.
- 12 Q So, just to clarify, the information that's self reported
- 13 on the fingerprint page is entered into a database?
- 14 A That's correct.
- 15 | Q The A6 summary is based on the race identification that
- 16 were entered into that database?
- 17 | A Yes.
- 18 | Q Have you ever attempted to reconcile the race
- 19 | identification on the fire department's processing list with
- 20 | the race identifications that -- on the eligibility list
- 21 maintained by DCAS?
- 22 | A You can try and there will be differences no matter what
- 23 | you do, okay? There will be similarities and there will be
- 24 differences. Candidates apply -- when candidates take the
- 25 | exam, they indicate their ethnicity on the application, on the

- 1 exam that they prepare. When they come to the fire department
- 2 | they self disclose on A2. There are times when the candidate
- 3 changes what they wish to put down. So, yes, you will see
- 4 discrepancies on them.
- 5 Q And just to be clear, the processing list and the summary
- 6 A6 is based on the fire department's information?
- 7 A Based on self disclosed information from the candidates,
- 8 yes.
- 9 Q Okay. Looking again at Exhibit A3, you testified that
- 10 | for some candidates race identifications are missing because
- 11 | the candidate failed to report for investigation and therefore
- 12 did not fill out the fingerprint form; is that correct?
- 13 A Correct.
- 14 | Q But there are candidates on this list who have no race
- 15 | identification with the status other than failed to report,
- 16 | correct?
- 17 A Can you identify one of them for me?
- 18 Q You could look at list number 238.
- 19 A That candidate failed the CPAT, one of -- couple of
- 20 things could have happened. Either the candidate chose not to
- 21 disclose because they don't have to disclose -- that is an
- 22 | option I didn't mention before -- or they were given the CPAT
- 23 by DCAS before they came in for investigation which is also
- 24 possible.
- 25 Q So, I guess is it accurate if a candidate does not have a

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- 1 | race identification and has a status other than failed to
- 2 report for investigation the candidate did not self identify
- 3 on the fingerprint --
- 4 A More than likely, yes.
- 5 Q On Exhibit A3 there are many applicants whose status is
- 6 listed as pending. That means they have been assigned a CID
- 7 | investigator, correct?
- 8 A Yes.
- 9 Q And that happens after what we've talked about is the
- 10 | intake session, correct?
- 11 A Correct.
- 12 Q So, a candidate whose process is status pending has
- 13 | already filled out the documents in the application package
- 14 and brought their documents in and had their fingerprints
- 15 taken. correct?
- 16 A Correct.
- 17 | Q And they haven't been disqualified by anybody?
- 18 A No.
- 19 Q And the processing from assignment to investigator to
- 20 completing processing you've testified can take up to six
- 21 | months, correct?
- 22 A I'm not sure I understand your question.
- 23 Q I'm sorry.
- The processing from the time a candidate is assigned
- 25 to an investigator --

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1	A Okay.	
2	Q to completing the processing being found fully	
3	qualified can take up to six months; is that correct?	
4	A That's correct.	
5	Q Do you know how many candidates who are listed as pending	
6	on Exhibit A3 have taken the CPAT?	
7	A No.	
8	Q Do you know when the CPAT was last given?	
9	A I believe the last CPAT was given in November of '09.	
10	THE COURT: You have to give it again if a certain	
11	period of time goes by?	
12	THE WITNESS: No. It is given once. Candidate's	
13	CPAT is good for the life of the exam, of the time it is	
14	given. Once it is given it is good forever.	
15	Q How does DCAS give a candidate CPAT before they report	
16	for investigation?	
17	A It is determined that we're going to have a class and	
18	CPAT will work to determine with us to determine what the	
19	scheduling should be because we want to provide the training,	
20	also. So, DCAS may call in candidates and have them schedule	
21	for a CPAT exam.	
22	Q So, candidates may be scheduled by DCAS for the CPAT	
23	before you request that they report for investigation?	
24	A Right. Generally that doesn't happen. Where it might	
25	have happened is the very first class because with the very	

first class everything was done simultaneously.

THE COURT: Let me just ask a question. Prior to 6019, the physical fitness portion of the process was a test where you got a score?

THE WITNESS: That's correct. It was actually part of the exam.

THE COURT: Right. And by virtue of that you knew that certain people couldn't pass the test at all, the physical fitness part, so they wouldn't go any further?

THE WITNESS: That's correct and they receive no benefit of training either.

THE COURT: Right. And, so, but now you have a situation where if you pass the CPAT, then it's simply a pass, fail test and you can go forward with your processing?

THE WITNESS: That's correct.

THE COURT: So, the benefit to the employer, if you will, is that if you give the CPAT at the front of the process and you then know there are certain candidates who aren't going to qualify, so it is not necessary to expend the time and energy, money, effort to process them and then find out that they can't pass the physical fitness test?

THE WITNESS: That's correct. But again it also -it is a benefit that it provides the employer the opportunity
to train those candidates to be successful in taking that CPAT
to successfully pass the CPAT.

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Queenan-cross/Burrell 122 1 THE COURT: Right, but you give them three months to 2 get in shape? 3 THE WITNESS: The membership, yes, about three 4 months. THE COURT: So --5 THE WITNESS: But with our training. 6 7 THE COURT: But if a candidate says I'm not -- they 8 call him or her in for the CPAT and he or she says I'm not 9 ready for it, I want to do three months of physical fitness 10 training and conditioning --11 THE WITNESS: Uh-huh. 12 THE COURT: -- would you then or DCAS then say we'll 13 call you in three months or do you have to go take the test 14 right away? 15 THE WITNESS: It is the candidate's option to take the test. If they want to be considered for the next class 16 17 they have to have taken the CPAT. By them not taking the CPAT they are postponing their ability to come into the class. 18 19 THE COURT: I see. Thank you. 20 Q I believe you testified that the CPAT was last given 21 November 2009? 22 Α Yes, I believe so. 23 Q Have any candidates with list numbers below 2121 been 24 given the CPAT? 25 Α Yes.

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Q Do you know how many?
A Offhand I don't have a total number but definitely in the
last two the first class we put in and the class we're
considering to put in now.
Q I'm sorry. Candidates below with list numbers lower
than 2121 have been administered
THE COURT: You mean numbers are higher but their
rank is lower.
MS. BURRELL: Yes.
A 2122, those people?
Q That's what I mean. Thank you.
A No. I don't believe so.
Q Have any candidates in that group attended orientations
for the CPAT?
A Not that I recall, but I'm really not positive.
THE COURT: What would happen if you have an
individual whose background check is not completed but who is
in that group of 300 that you would appoint to the academy and
the background check may not be completed for another three,
four months; you don't hold up the whole class for that
individual, do you?
THE WITNESS: No, your Honor.
THE COURT: Then you would go to someone who has a
rank that is lower on the list and fill the class with this
person if he or she is fully qualified?

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THE WITNESS: Right. As I said in my earlier testimony from the last time is that we process a large number of people so that we know basically how far we can go down the list so that we're capable of filling a class at any particular time.

THE COURT: If that individual is passed let's say because he or she has not completed the process, when you have the next class is that person put at the top of the list.

THE COURT: Yes, that person would be considered for the next class.

THE COURT: Go ahead.

- Q Following up, at the time that the fire department hires for a class, you hire in order from among the candidates who have completed the process and found to be qualified, correct?
- 15 A Yes. Within list order number.
- 16 Q Since your testimony in July have you looked at exactly
 17 what still needs to be done in order to complete the
- 18 processing for candidates whose status is listed as pending on
- 19 | Exhibit A3?

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- A No, because we haven't been using the list. We were told to hold off.
- Q But have you inquired as to where in the process the candidates with a pending status are regardless of whether the
- 24 process is continuing?
- 25 A Not personally, no.

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- 1 Q Has anyone?
- 2 A My staff just does the intake. I mean, I don't think
- 3 | anyone I know of has asked that.
- 4 Q Do you know what still needs to be done to complete
- 5 processing of Afro-American and Hispanic candidates on the
- 6 list who's status is listed as pending?
- 7 A No.
- 8 Q And you testified that by the end of August and the end
- 9 of September that the medical approval of some candidates will
- 10 expire, correct?
- 11 A Correct.
- 12 | Q We can tell from looking at Exhibit A3 which candidate's
- 13 | medical approvals are about to expire, correct?
- 14 A Correct.
- 15 Q How long is the fire academy class that was supposed to
- 16 begin on August 30, how many weeks?
- 17 A 23.
- 18 | Q Do recruits in academy work seven days a week during that
- 19 23-week period?
- 20 A I'm not sure of their schedule. I'm really not.
- 21 Q And according to Exhibit A6, the anticipated size of the
- 22 August 30 class is 312, correct?
- 23 A Correct.
- 24 Q The fire department at times has had classes larger than
- 25 | 312, hasn't it?

M. BRYMER, RPR, OCR OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

	Queenan-cross/Burrell 126
1	A Not since I have been there.
2	Q Which is?
3	A I started in I believe it was October of 2004.
4	Q Has the fire department run more than one academy class
5	at a time?
6	A No.
7	Q Turning back for a moment to Exhibit, I believe A3 for
8	candidates who were deemed not qualified for failure to report
9	for investigation, has the fire department notified those
10	candidates that they have been disqualified from
11	consideration?
12	A Yes.
13	Q When did it do that?
14	A We send out letters for the candidates telling them they
15	have been disqualified. I don't know, I'm not sure when it is
16	processed. It is ongoing when we disqualify candidates.
17	Q Have candidates who were under consideration for the
18	August
19	A I'm sorry, we send out a proposed notice. If they don't
20	respond within ten days we send out another notice saying it
21	is a final notice. They get an advance of what we are
22	intending.
23	Q So, candidates under consideration for the proposed
24	August 30 class but were found not qualified because they
25	failed to report for investigation, those candidates have been

127 Queenan-cross/Levv notified that they are not qualified? 1 2 I believe so, yes. 3 Q What about candidates who were found not qualified for other reasons, have they been notified? 4 Candidates found not qualified for medical or 5 Α psychological, they're offered -- they can appeal that 6 7 disqualification, so, yes, they're given notification and they 8 can appeal to the Civil Service Commission. 9 MS. BURRELL: I have nothing further right now, 10 your Honor. 11 THE COURT: Mr. Levy, anything from you? 12 MR. LEVY: Yes. 13 THE COURT: Please. 14 CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. LEVY: 15 16 Do you keep track at all of the frequency with which 17 letters that you send to applicants or candidates come back 18 undelivered? 19 We keep what comes back undelivered, but we also started 20 a process by which any candidates that failed to report or we 21 continually get mail back, we send that list down to our 22 Recruitment Division and our Recruitment Division attempts to 23 reach the candidates either via phone or mail. 24 Q Phone or mail? 25 Α Right.

Queenan-cross/Levy

1 Q Do you know if they do anything else?

2 A I couldn't tell you if they do anything else. I know

3 that's the process they do. Basically, candidates are

4 required, they sign a document stating they must update the

fire department if there's any changes of their address or

status or phone at any time during their investigation. We

took that a step further because we understand that certain

8 candidates for whatever reason they may not follow through, so

9 | the fire department attempted through the Recruitment

Department to add another step to reach out to those

11 candidates.

5

6

7

10

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16

20

12 Q What about candidates who have not begun the

investigation and they took the exam three years ago and may

14 | have moved?

15 A We would only reach out to the candidates that were in

processing at that time because if you continue to go beyond

17 | the candidates that we're processing they could have another

18 change of address before we call them in for processing.

19 Q I understand that, but I'm just saying that when you

begin the processing, among this group of people that you're

21 looking at now, some of those people you may have called in in

22 the last six months or so?

23 A Uh-huh.

24 Q May have taken the exam three-and-a-half years ago or did

25 and they may have moved, and I'm wondering if there are any

M. BRYMER, RPR, OCR OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

129 Queenan-cross/Levv 1 other things you do. For example, do you look for Social 2 Security numbers and see if there are new addresses listed or 3 things of that nature at all? 4 No. The CPAT exam itself, how long does it take to do the 5 exam, in other words, if I went to go through that physical 6 7 examination how long would it take? 8 I'm sorry, I don't have that information. 9 THE COURT: For you or for someone else? 10 MR. LEVY: Let's assume someone else. 11 I mean is it a ten, 15 minute kind of thing, or do you 12 know? 13 Α I don't know. 14 I want to go back to? 15 THE COURT: I'm sorry. Who administers the exam? THE WITNESS: It is given by DCAS. 16 17 Going back to this issue of the years that have passed, 18 the exam was given in January of '07, we're now approaching 19 January 11, I want to explore a certain area with you and it 20 has to do I will say in advance with the availability of EMT 21 as possible fire fighters. 22 First of all, let me begin by asking do you know how 23 many employees there are of the emergency medical division of 24 the fire department roughly? 25 Α Roughly 3,000.

130 Queenan-cross/Levv 3,000. 1 Q 2 And, so, they've had no opportunity to take an exam 3 since the last 605 -- 056 or 50 -- 6506 was given concurrently 4 with 6019, right? That's correct. 5 Α These folks are in your employ, I gather they're 6 Q 7 reachable, you know their addresses, so on, so forth; is that 8 right? 9 Yes. 10 If you chose to, you could notify them through 11 employment, not with you reaching out in the field to people's 12 homes necessarily, but through employment or through their 13 addresses you have of a new exam if you chose to give another 14 exam let's say in a month? You could do that, you could reach them, they're working people? 15 16 That's correct. Now, if you gave 6506 again, just hypothetically, a month 17 18 from now, do you have any way of knowing what proportion or 19 what number of EMTs might apply for that? No, I don't. Also, if they were to be given that exam, 20 21 they would have to be appointed from the list. They would 22 have to go through the investigation process, be appointed 23 through the list. 24 Q I know that. That's not my question. But part of that question is --25

Queenan-cross/Levy 131 Don't interrupt. Please finish. 1 THE COURT: 2 That they cannot be appointed to fire fighter 3 until they've served a year permanently in the title of 4 EMT. Let me just refine the question. 5 6 Putting aside the next steps, do you know how many 7 of the 3,000 or so EMTs has been in service for a year or 8 more. 9 Α Not offhand, no. 10 Q Would you say it's a large majority of them? 11 That's 3,000 comprised of all different levels, 12 not just EMTs. 13 Q Do you know roughly the racial composition of the EMT 14 group? It is -- I don't -- I cannot quote figures to you, but 15 16 extremely diverse work force. 17 Would you say it's perhaps 50-50 minority, white? Q 18 THE COURT: We don't want guesswork. If you want 19 information, you can ask the City for it, but I don't think --20 the witness doesn't have it in front of her, she doesn't 21 remember it offhand. I rather not put something on the record 22 that's --23 MR. LEVY: That's fine, your Honor. 24 THE COURT: -- that's just conjecture or an estimate 25 or an educated guess or whatever you want to call it.

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Queenan-cross/Levy
                                                                    132
          Do you know offhand what proportion of EMTs usually do
 1
    Q
 2
    apply for the fire exam when it is offered?
 3
    Α
          No.
               (Continued on the following page.)
 4
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133 Queenan - cross - Levy 1 CROSS-EXAMINATION (CONT'D.) 2 BY MR. LEVY 3 Now, there was a figure you gave before which I'm just 4 not clear about; did you say that there were 48 candidates currently eligible on the 6506 list? 5 6 On the 6506 list there are 61 eligible, 13 are qualified 7 to go into the class, there are a remaining 48 candidates that 8 could at some point if they reactivated their investigation or 9 they came back from the military or any one of those things 10 could be considered for promotion to firefighter. 11 Let's talk about this processing. If someone let's say 12 passed an exam, 6506 exam let's say a month from now or two 13 months from now and you were dealing with a much smaller 14 group, let's say we were dealing with 200 people instead of a list of 20,000 or 2,000 that you might look at at a time, I 15 want to ask you ways in which we might expedite the process 16 17 based on your experience. 18 Some things I understand you've said are somewhat 19 fixed but how many people right now are involved in the 20 investigation process, in gathering the documents and 21 following up, how many people are on that staff? 22 Approximately 12 -- 6 to 12 investigators are working on 23 two different sides. I have investigators that basically do

A Approximately 12 -- 6 to 12 investigators are working on two different sides. I have investigators that basically do EMS and fire investigations and so right now since we're not fully investigating firefighters are working more on EMS but,

24

regardless, it's really, as I said before, it's really not the number of people that you have doing the investigation that is going to change -- expedite the process because so much of that process is in the time limitations, it's barred, are not the creation of the Fire Department, it's at the hands of the candidates and the references that they provide.

Q Well, I mean I understand that you calculate that this is a six-month process but I'm trying to understand why you believe if someone were called in and told, look, we're doing something in an expedited way, I'd like you to get employer information to us immediately and here's a form letter to send out and here's a letter to send out to your school, let's fill it out right here, let's get it out; why couldn't in many cases that kind of information be returned in a matter of a week?

A It's unrealistic. It's the same thing as if when people are going for their mortgage and they need information from their employer for their bank, the individual applying for that mortgage has to sit on their employer to go -- to get that information to the bank. It's the same kind of process here. We are not the only person, the only agency that is asking an employer or an educational institution to verify information. Every city agency is doing that, they're doing it for a police officer, they're doing it for all of these other titles; not only city employees, they worked in other

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135
                       Queenan - cross - Levv
1
    companies, private companies are asking for that information.
 2
    So, it's unrealistic to think that just because we, the Fire
 3
    Department are sending a letter that we can expect a
 4
    reasonable amount of return time.
    Q
         Well --
 5
                          Can I -- let me just cut to the chase
 6
              THE COURT:
 7
           If there is a special circumstance such as the one we
8
    may have in this case at this moment, I think the real
9
    question is how quickly can this process be expedited; just as
10
    there have been situations in the past where the process must
    have been expedited after 9/11, although we haven't gone into
11
12
    that for the hiring of 1,200 firefighters in the course of
13
    like 14 months I think was the testimony; if I'm right, and
14
    you can correct me if I'm wrong, there must be a way of
    expediting the process if there's what you might call exigent
15
16
    circumstance or an emergency or some other special
17
    circumstance that necessitates making extraordinary efforts, I
18
    think that's what it comes down to on the part of Mr. Levy.
19
              MR. LEVY:
                          It does and I'd like to ask some specific
20
    questions about that, Your Honor.
21
                           I think I asked the question actually.
              THE COURT:
22
              MR. LEVY:
                          Okay then.
23
              THE COURT:
                          You don't get to reask my question,
24
    Mr. Levy.
25
              MR. LEVY: You go first. I'm not quibbling.
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THE WITNESS: I wasn't here -- I wasn't working for the Fire Department at 9/11 and I understand that there are certain legalities that come into play when you're going to hire classes or you're going to avoid doing certain processes so I really can't speak to what we are able to do and cannot do.

I do know that in terms of there are certain requirements that must be met in order for the candidates to meet peace officer status, so there are certain basic things that we must look into. And so -- and, again, I just really would like to emphasize that although we're shortening the process, we really are putting the city at a liability by not doing appropriate background checks on candidates.

THE COURT: You are doing that?

THE WITNESS: We do background checks on candidates.

THE COURT: But you're saying that you --

THE WITNESS: Because if we don't, if we hire firefighters and we don't -- we haven't looked into their character or background and we say simply that we want to hire this candidate because we have to move the list along, again, firefighters are held to a very high standard within the city in the eye of the public so they are going to be given certain access let's say to abodes or places just by the mere fact that they appear to be a firefighter. So, I think it is incumbent upon the department to ensure for the city that the

HOLLY DRISCOLL, CSR OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

candidates that we put into the title of firefighter meet the requirements --

137

THE COURT: Well --

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THE WITNESS: -- of peace officer and all the other things that are required.

I understand. The question wasn't THE COURT: whether you would forego these steps but whether you could expedite the steps, just as in emergencies certain steps get expedited at all levels of government and private enterprise if there is a special need and I think the question is you say that you have 6 to 12 people doing a portion of the background check but there are other agencies which also have experts doing background checks, DCAS has them, other agencies, the Police Department and isn't it possible that if there were special need in the Fire Department, you could take some of those people from those other agencies on a one-time basis and plug them in and have them help you expedite the process whereby if you had an employer who hasn't answered a request in ten days, you call him up and you say where's the answer, we have a special circumstance here and chances are the employer may be cooperative in many cases because you've explained why it is you need an expedited situation.

I'm not asking you about what is commonplace, I'm asking you about what can you do if have you a special need and I think that you're going to have to, my sense, is examine

with the rest of -- how many thousands of people are employed by the City of New York, 100 and how many thousand?

MR. LEVY: 281,000 Your Honor.

THE COURT: Thank you. That there might be a few additional people who do the kind of work that you do who could be brought in to assist you if there were special need to expedite a class for the fire academy using some system or some approach other than the rank order test of 6019; isn't it possible?

THE WITNESS: I really can't say what other agencies would give to us. All agencies are right now operating with minimal staffing so I'm not sure and the Police Department has classes going in so I really can't say. I can say that there possibly could be something that could be shortened but we have to remember, I have to take into consideration what effect that also has or we need to take into consideration what effect that has on the candidate, is it going to negatively impact the candidate's opportunity for appointment or is it going to -- such as CPAT, training of CPAT, you know, if you don't have a training class then those candidates aren't given the same opportunity that other candidates were given.

If you cut back the medical, then candidates aren't given the same advantage as other candidates were given in having the opportunity to provide evidence that they could

go -- they could qualify medically for a class. So, though there may be places where we may possibly be able to cut a corner here and there, really there are a lot of things that need to be taken into consideration in order for me to provide a good response.

MR. LEVY: I think there are a couple of specifics that I would like to address.

THE COURT: How much more do you have for the witness?

MR. LEVY: Just a few minutes.

THE COURT: Okay. Please go ahead.

BY MR LEVY:

Q As things stand now, I see that there are three areas particularly that you look at where you're relying on others and that's the employers whose information you need, the schools whose information you need and there may be a criminal background check that has to be done.

On the employers and the schools, just to start there, does anybody call the day that the person is called in for the investigation -- you get a list of schools -- or the next day or three days later and say -- and call up the personnel department of an employer or the student, I don't know what -- the bursar's department or whatever it is at a college and say, look, you're going to get or you're getting today or getting tomorrow a request for information from the

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140
                       Queenan - cross - Levy
    Fire Department in New York, could you please get that back to
1
 2
    us in a week; could you do that, is it doable?
 3
         It's a lot of -- it's doable but I don't think that it's
 4
    going to really get the results that you're looking for.
         Well, you're saying that, I don't want to argue with you
 5
    Q
    but I get references all the time Ms. Queenan --
 6
7
              MR. LEMONEDES:
                               Objection, Your Honor.
8
              THE COURT: Sustained. You're not testifying.
9
              MR. LEVY: You're right, I know, but I don't
10
    understand why, you know --
11
                          Well, a --
              THE COURT:
12
         Do you make calls now, do you make any calls now to
13
    employers?
14
         If we need clarification we might call a employer.
         How about just to get the return back, get the
15
16
    information back?
17
         If I have to tell that employer that they have to send --
18
    I could, yes.
19
    Q
         I didn't ask if you could, I'm asking do they do that?
20
    Α
         Do they do that now, no.
21
         So, one of the things you could do to expedite this
22
    process and it wouldn't work for everybody perhaps but you
23
    could make phone calls immediately after you send out the
24
    inquiries to ask people to please get them back promptly,
25
    that's right, isn't it?
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A If I could have extra -- yes, I could do it with extra staff.

THE COURT: Can I just interpose this. Commissioner Queenan has been on the stand twice now. I am sure, I am certain that if there were a specific need to expedite the process, that based on what I've seen in her testimony, her professionalism, her attention to detail, her experience, that she would, and correct me if I'm wrong, if required to bring together the resources needed to maximize the speed with which the processing of qualifying candidates could be accomplished, I'm sure she can do it. She's not going to get that from -- she may not get that from certain quarters but she might have incentive from the Court at some point.

So, I don't think it is a question of whether she's capable of doing it. If she had to do it, she would do it because she's a professional. And so, the details, frankly, Mr. Levy, I'm not that concerned about because I'm sure that there are ways of expediting the process. If you want to make a full record on it, I don't know that it's necessary, I'll let you do it but I think we have a pretty good idea where things stand.

MR. LEVY: Just one or two more questions for that record.

THE COURT: Go ahead.

Q One of them is the medical and psychological part, that's

142 Queenan - cross - Levv 1 not done by anybody on the outside, right, those are your own 2 people who do those exams? 3 Α Yes. They're on staff of the city? 4 () That's correct. 5 Α Is there a specific medical staff for the Fire 6 Q 7 Department? Yes, there is. 8 9 Q The other departments of the city also have medical 10 staffs that do this kind of things, as far as you know? No. 11 Α Only the Fire Department? 12 Q 13 Fire Department and possibly Police. Α 14 The Police Department, okay. Q 15 The criminal background information, do you use the FBI or other sources to check on --16 17 We're using the FBI fingerprints source and then what we 18 do is we ask the candidates to get -- to provide us with a 19 write-up of the account of what happened, what occurred, what 20 the indiscretion was and they also must go provide from the 21 locality from which the arrest or conviction occurred a copy 22 of the disposition, so that could be anywhere in the United 23 States. 24 Is there any way that the Fire Department could solicit 25 that information from the law enforcement agency involved

143 Queenan - cross - Levy 1 rather than have an individual who was processed there have to 2 try to get it? 3 First of all, the employee would probably have to agree 4 to us doing that. I'm not sure of the mechanism but that would require that we reach out to locales all over the 5 country so it could be a little -- again, I would need the 6 7 staffing, whatever, to do it. If I had to do it, we could work something out. I don't know the legalities. 8 9 Q You have a high proportion of applicants who have criminal records? 10 Yes. 11 Α 12 Q You do? 13 Α Yes. 14 And the CPAT training period, that is how long? Q The CPAT training period I believe is 12 weeks. 15 Α Has it ever been shorter than that? Do you know if it 16 17 could be shorter? 18 Α It could be shortened. 19 MR. LEVY: Okay. I have no further questions. 20 THE COURT: All right. Just a couple of questions 21 from the Court. 22 Do you have a sense of what percentage of the 23 candidates who are actually processed are found not qualified 24 due to employment discrepancies, they claim to have been 25 employed in a place they weren't or they were fired or somehow

144 Queenan - cross - Levv disciplined in such a way that they wouldn't qualify under 1 2 your standards? 3 THE WITNESS: Generally when we -- I have no 4 statistical analysis or basis to provide that and when we disqualify candidates it is basically determined on their 5 6 whole history, it's not just that one kind of thing unless it 7 is a felony. 8 THE COURT: Okay. 9 MR. LEVY: Can I ask one more -- I'm sorry I thought 10 you --11 THE COURT: And with regard to their school record, 12 there are certain standards that you must impose before you 13 will appoint someone, and what is the current standard for 14 education? 15 THE WITNESS: 15 college credits or six months of 16 full-time employment and -- I'm sorry, I just went blank on 17 the last one. 18 THE COURT: Past high school diploma. High school, yeah. 19 THE WITNESS: THE COURT: That's a pretty straightforward test, 20 21 you don't have to look at the whole picture in order to know 22 whether or not someone has reached those levels, you'll know 23 it after you look at their diploma and you look at their 24 college transcript or you'll look at their employment 25 background.

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145
                       Queenan - cross - Levy
1
              THE WITNESS: Earlier years I would say yes but
 2
    there are a lot of institutions that are bogus and not true
 3
    institutions any longer so -- we have internet educational
 4
    programs, so we must verify that the institutions that they
    are providing us with are actually valid and have been
 5
 6
    accredited.
 7
              THE COURT:
                          I bet you've developed a list.
              THE WITNESS: Yeah, we have some that are no good,
8
9
    yes.
10
              THE COURT: Another question?
              MR. LEVY:
11
                          I had a question I forgot to ask.
12
              THE COURT:
                          Go ahead, from your place.
13
    BY MR. LEVY:
14
         Okay. I earlier posited this possibility of giving
    another test to the EMT folks. Those folks obviously are
15
    already in your employ, they've been through checks before,
16
17
    they were employed as EMTs, right?
18
         Well, as an EMT they're -- we don't require investigation
19
    before appointment and we don't look at arrest and -- we can
20
    only look at conviction so there are still additional things
21
    that we -- examinations that we need to go through.
22
         But presumably when you hire them as EMTs do you ask them
23
    about, for example, their education background?
24
         Yes, that's correct. There are certain things that we
    Α
    ask them but there are also things that occur during their
25
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Queenan - cross - Levy

146

- 1 employment as an EMT so they could have been arrested, they
- 2 | could have had certain indiscretions as an EMT so we still
- 3 | must review their background, there are standards they still
- 4 must meet.
- 5 Q Right, I understand that but their prior employment
- 6 you've ascertained because you get that before they're hired?
- 7 A Yes.
- 8 Q Education you have, you know that they've been working
- 9 | for you for six months so they don't have to prove any college
- 10 requirement because it's an either/or, right, it is either 15
- 11 | credits or six months employment?
- 12 A That's correct.
- 13 | Q They need to be with you a year to even qualify for this
- 14 exam. So, as to that group, you would certainly have a jump
- on the ability to check them out for possible employment in
- 16 | the department, right?
- 17 A Yes, but they would still need to have been, in order to
- 18 be appointed they would still have had to had this promo exam,
- 19 serve in the title for a year before they could be appointed
- 20 as a firefighter, a permanent employee for a year.
- 21 Q They don't have to serve for a year after they take the
- 22 | exam?
- 23 A Yes, as a permanent -- they have to be picked up off the
- 24 | civil service list, appointed permanently and serve in the
- 25 | title for a year before they can be appointed as a

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Queenan - redirect - Lemonedes 147 Some of their provisional time will count. 1 firefiahter. 2 they're basically provisional -- a lot of them are 3 provisional, so their provisional time, some of that will 4 count towards their permanent service but, in essence, they have to have been in the title permanently for a year meaning 5 they served permanently before they can be promoted to 6 7 firefighter. But the year can take place and must take place before 8 they take the exam, right? 9 10 No, they can take the exam without -- they just can't be Α 11 appointed. 12 Q I see. 13 They can't be promoted to firefighter but they can take 14 the exam. But if they were there for a year before they took the 15 Q 16 exam they will --17 If they were permanently in the title for a year, yes. 18 MR. LEVY: Okay. 19 THE COURT: Anything else, Mr. Lemonedes? 20 MR. LEMONEDES: Very quick. 21 THE COURT: Go ahead. 22 REDIRECT EXAMINATION 23 BY MR. LEMONEDES: 24 Mr. Levy has been positing several questions to you about 25 giving a new promotional exam to EMTs. What exam would you

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Queenan - redirect - Lemonedes
                                                                 148
    give them?
 1
 2
         DCAS would have to design a new exam.
 3
    Q
         You mean you wouldn't just give them 6019?
 4
    Α
         I can't give them 6019, it is invalid.
         I think His Honor would not allow that. Okay. That's the
 5
    Q
 6
    point at issue.
 7
              THE COURT: I understand.
              MR. LEMONEDES:
8
                               Okay.
9
              THE COURT:
                           Thank you.
10
              MR. LEMONEDES: I think that's it, I've got no other
11
    questions.
12
              THE COURT: Anything else from
13
    plaintiff-intervenors?
14
               (No response.)
              THE COURT: Commissioner, thank you for coming in.
15
16
              THE WITNESS: Thank you, Your Honor.
17
              THE COURT: You are excused. You may stand down.
18
              THE WITNESS: Thank you.
19
              MR. LEVY: Can I just respond to a point?
20
              THE COURT: Let's let the Commissioner go back to
21
    her office.
22
               (Witness leaves the courtroom.)
23
              THE COURT:
                           Mr. Levy.
24
              MR. LEVY: The point, and we've made it before, is
    that we have no objection to them giving 6506 again as long as
25
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149
    it's used in a way that doesn't have an adverse impact.
1
 2
    said over and over again it is not our position here how the
 3
    city should test if it's not doing something that has an
 4
    adverse impact on the blacks and Latinos and they could do
    that.
5
                                  Anything else for this morning?
 6
              THE COURT:
                           0kay.
 7
              MR. LEMONEDES: No, as long as I can have some time
8
    to --
9
              THE COURT: We're going to resume at 3:30. Do you
10
    know who your witness is going to be?
11
              MR. LEMONEDES: I don't yet. I just don't know yet.
12
              THE COURT: Well, certainly you can't prepare a
13
    witness if you don't know who it is going to be.
14
              MR. LEMONEDES:
                               That's why I need to get out of here
    so I can find out.
15
16
              THE COURT: All right. We'll see you at 3:30.
17
    Thank you, everyone.
18
              MR. LEMONEDES: May I ask for 3:45?
19
              THE COURT: 3:45 it is.
20
              MR. LEMONEDES: Thanks.
21
               (Time noted: 1:55 p.m.)
22
               (Recess taken.)
23
               (Continued on next page.)
24
25
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Sweeney - direct - Lemonedes
                                                                 150
              THE COURT: Please be seated.
1
 2
               (Time noted: 3:50 \text{ p.m.})
 3
              THE COURT: All right. You may call your witness.
 4
              MR. LEMONEDES: Thank you, Your Honor.
              With the Court's permission, the defense calls Chief
 5
    of Operations for the Fire Department, Mr. Robert Sweeney or
 6
 7
    Chief Sweeney I should say.
    ROBERT SWEENEY, having been first duly
8
9
    sworn was examined and testified as follows:
10
              THE COURT: Please be seated, sir.
11
              Please state and spell your full name for the
12
    record.
13
              THE WITNESS:
                             Robert Sweeney, S W E E N E Y.
14
              THE COURT: You may inquire.
              MR. LEMONEDES: Thank you, Your Honor.
15
    DIRECT EXAMINATION
16
    BY MR. LEMONEDES:
17
18
    Q
         Sir, are you presently employed?
19
    Α
         Yes, by the New York City Fire Department.
20
         And in what position?
    Q
21
         Chief of Operations.
    Α
22
         How long have you been the Chief of Operations?
    Q
23
    Α
         For a year now.
24
    Q
         How long have you been with the Fire Department?
25
    Α
         Thirty years, over thirty years.
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Q Could you just very briefly detail your career at the Fire Department?

A I was a firefighter for about seven and a half years in Engine 69; was promoted to lieutenant, I served in Engine 235 in Brooklyn; I made captain, I went back to 91 in East Harlem, was battalion chief, I was in the Special Operations

Battalion, in the Eighth Battalion in Midtown; as a deputy chief I served in southern Queens and I was then made the Queens Borough Commander for three years and I was promoted to

Assistant Chief of Operations for three years prior to my current title.

Q And what are your duties as the Chief of Operations?

A sthe Chief of Operations I oversee the five borough commands and basically oversee all the active units on the fire operations side, not the medical side, strictly the fire side; ensure their readiness and their preparedness to serve and protect the public of New York City.

Q Okay. In this litigation there's been certain testimony and concerns raised regarding two specific issues that have operational concerns and I'd like to address both of them with you and ask for your response on both a short-term and a longer term basis.

There's some questions that have been raised regarding hiring a new academy class within the next few months. Can you tell -- advise the Court or give some

information to His Honor regarding the operational concerns and needs on that subject both on a short-term and a longer term basis?

A On a short-term basis I think we can adequately staff, I think we can minimize the risk, we're down about over 250 firefighters currently, we're filling the staffing vacancies with overtime at the current pace but going further out from a short-term if you go into months and maybe years I think we create a tipping point at some point where the stress level on the firefighter rank with all the members working the additional overtime necessary to fill the tours going forward is going to create fatigue, it is going to stress the system tremendously and I think at some point the impact -- safety is going to be impacted at that particular point.

Q Well, when you consider any of those issues, are there other variables that you address or that you are taking into account in giving that testimony?

A Yes, there are other variables, I would say the workload going forward. We -- our current responses have increased the past few years, we're at record levels response-wise going forward even though our structural fires have come down.

We're nearing the winter which is normally our busiest season and normally the colder the winter is, the more active our

Our medical responses are about 42 percent of our

HOLLY DRISCOLL, CSR OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

fire units are on the fire side.

engine companies' runs right now, they respond to life threatening Segment 1, 2 and 3 medical calls and they're equipped, they're CFRD trained firefighters, which is Certified First Responders Defibrillator, and again they're taxiing runs, they are assisting with patient removal. So, again, as we go forward longer term that we do not hire a class or we do not get new firefighters out there, we're stressing the current membership right now.

Q What concerns, if any, do you have regarding additional training of firefighters?

A Additional training for firefighters starts in the academy, it is basically ongoing until the day the firefighter retires. We have daily drills in the fire houses that are conducted by the officer and usually the senior men assist and lead the officer in these drills. We have weekend multi-unit drills where two or three units will get together supervised by a battalion chief, conduct ongoing training.

As we go forward, as we have in the past, there comes a point where if the senior members that are retirement eligible, if the overtime does keep going up and up and outpacing the current level, at some point in time the attrition rate is going to increase thereby decreasing the experience level in the department and that's going to affect the department in other ways also.

Q How would decreasing the level, the seniority level of

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154

1 | the Fire Department have an impact?

2 A Well, when firefighters get assigned to companies they're

3 placed in the group and normally the senior men in that

4 company, well, the officer will conduct and supervise the

5 formal drills, all during the tour of duty and off-duty the

firefighters, the senior men take kind of the younger

7 | firefighters under their wings to say and they help them

along, they train them, they give them good experience, they

give them feedback on how they operated or how they performed

a rescue or what may be. It is another form of mentorship

within the department on an informal basis.

12 Q How would that be impacted then?

13 A Well, if we do lose the senior members due to attrition

and retirement due to the increase in their revenue and

they're retirement eligible and if they leave, we're going to

lose that important segment of the training in the fire house,

the informal training.

6

8

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14

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19

24

18 Q Okay. In addition to the concerns about hiring a new

class shortly, are there concerns regarding closing fire

20 houses, changing in the level of manpower?

21 A There were concerns with the current fiscal year budget.

22 | I think the powers of City Hall and OMB, they tasked the Fire

23 | Department with reducing our overall operating budget and in

order to meet the needs, the PEG, the program to eliminate the

25 | gap we call it, I think it was 86 million dollars, company

- 1 closings were put on the table at that particular time.
- 2 Q Well, what is your role, if any, in that situation?
- 3 A My role is to -- I was part of the Operations. I was
- 4 | collecting all the data in preparation of putting a list
- 5 | together of possibly identifying units that may or may not be
- 6 closed and I would deal with the ramifications of 20 units
- 7 being closed, the impact on the membership, the impact on the
- 8 city, how we do training, how we respond on a day-to-day basis
- 9 | would certainly be affected.
- 10 Q I want to consider this in two different parts. There is
- 11 | sort of the discussions that concern whether this ought to
- 12 | happen and then there's discussions that concern if it does
- 13 | happen, what do we do; were you involved in both of those
- 14 | elements?
- 15 A As far as the discussion on whether or not it should
- 16 occur, I was not involved at all in that discussion.
- 17 | Q So, your involvement was if it happens, how do we deal
- 18 | with it?
- 19 | A Correct.
- 20 | Q What concerns, if any, do you have regarding closing fire
- 21 house?
- 22 A Closing fire houses affects our ability to protect and
- 23 | serve the residents of the City of New York. I mean you can
- 24 | close -- if you close a company, it may be affected on a local
- 25 basis but that's not the key there, if that company is out of

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Sweeney - direct - Lemonedes
                                                                 156
    service it's going to affect response time for that
1
 2
    neighborhood, it's going to be pulling additional resources
 3
    from other neighborhoods out from the neighborhood they're
 4
    currently protecting. It is almost like a domino effect.
                                                                Ιt
    is going to affect every community in the city.
 5
         Are you familiar with something called building
 6
    Q
 7
    inspections?
8
    Α
         Yes, I am.
9
         Would it have an impact on building inspections?
10
         Yes, a company closing would have an impact; currently
11
    every fire company has an administrative district we call it,
12
    it is normally located within the -- normally within the
13
    confines of their response area and they're tasked with
14
    building inspections that they currently go out three times a
15
    week, three hours at a time and we conduct fire safety
16
    inspections on buildings, both residential and public, and if
    we were to close companies, those administrative districts
17
18
    would have to be redistributed placing additional burden on
    the neighborhood companies. It would affect the efficiency of
19
20
    their overall inspections.
21
              MR. LEMONEDES: Okay. May I have just one minute,
    Your Honor?
22
23
              THE COURT:
                           Surely.
24
               (Pause.)
25
              MR. LEMONEDES: Thank you very much, Chief.
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Sweeney - cross - Seelev
                                                                 157
1
    you, Your Honor.
 2
              THE COURT: Cross-examination.
 3
              MS. SEELEY: Just one or two questions.
 4
    CROSS-EXAMINATION
    BY MS. SEELEY:
 5
    Q
         Good afternoon, Chief.
 6
 7
    Α
         Good afternoon.
8
         I believe, and you can correct me if I'm wrong, that when
9
    Mr. Lemonedes was questioning you about the effect of delaying
10
    hiring of new firefighter classes and you used the phrase
11
    tipping point and you said that in the short-term the
12
    department can handle it but going into months and maybe years
13
    it leads to problems and then you talked about those problems
14
    and my question was whether you can tell us what you believe
    the tipping point is; months and years could be a long period
15
16
    of time and I wondered whether you could make it more
17
    specific?
18
         I can't really set a date in time. You know, currently
19
    the staffing, the firefighters, our overtime has increased.
    The average overtime for our membership for firefighters out
20
21
    there has doubled in the past 12 months, has went from 45 to
22
    90 hours average in addition to their roster staffing overtime
23
    which is an additional 86.
24
               So, they're currently working about 200 hours
25
    overtime a year average-wise. That's steadily going to
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Sweeney - cross - Seeley
                                                                 158
    increase until we hire a new class. I don't know what point,
1
 2
    I can't quantify it, tell you 300 hours or 400 hours but at
 3
    some point our firefighters are going to be working much more
 4
    often than they're currently working and at some point it is
    stressful on them and stressful on the department.
5
 6
              THE COURT: Let me just ask this question.
                                                           Do all
 7
    the firefighters work an equal or similar number of hours of
8
               In other words, is the overtime of the Fire
9
    Department spread evenly among firefighters from the most
10
    senior to the most junior in seniority?
11
              THE WITNESS: Yes, we currently have an overtime
12
    policy in place to equalize overtime and we have a paid -- we
13
    call it, P-A-I-D, I believe it is 5 of 74 within the
14
    department, it stresses how you would hire overtime, how you
    record the overtime to ensure it is equalized, who gets
15
16
    offered the overtime on a specific basis, so on, so forth.
17
    So, it is equalized throughout the department.
18
              THE COURT:
                          So, the most senior firefighters don't
19
    do more overtime on average than the mid-range or more junior
20
    firefighters?
21
                             In theory they should not.
              THE WITNESS:
22
              THE COURT:
                          Theory?
23
              THE WITNESS:
                            Correct.
24
              THE COURT: Okay. Go ahead.
25
         I just wanted to ask you, Chief, understanding your
    Q
```

Sweeney - cross - Seeley 159 previous answer that you can't really specifically locate what 1 2 you called the tipping point; if there were a delay, for 3 instance, of six months, do you think that that would pose a 4 substantial public safety issue? I can't really -- I would probably -- I would answer it 5 6 this way --7 THE COURT: I'm sorry, you must have touched that 8 little button. There you go. 9 THE WITNESS: I'm sorry. 10 I think I would answer it this way, if we were 11 waiting six months, would that impose a public safety, there 12 are other variables in place, you know, we have a medical 13 leave issue going on in the department right now that's 14 playing a factor into the overtime and the staffing levels currently going on and, again, the weather and I think an 15 16 event, if a terrorist event were to happen similar to -- not even close to the Trade Center, we had hundreds of 17 18 firefighters taken offline detailed to that site for months, 19 ten, eleven months, that created additional overtime and 20 additional stress on the membership. 21 So, in a perfect world if nothing happened and the 22 medical leave remained low, no, it probably would not create 23

an initial safety impact in the six months.

Q Just one other question. When you talk about the

stresses on the system essentially is the way I think you put

24

Sweeney - cross - Seeley

it, kind of going on and on and snowballing and getting worse over time, if in fact any delay in hiring could be made up by hiring larger classes, and I'm not asking you whether that's possible but just if that were possible, then wouldn't a lot of this continuing stress on the system be eliminated or minimized?

A I really can't answer as far as doubling the classes, that would be the Chief of Training oversees the training classes but if that was the case, until that time happened I think it would create -- the issue would be with the retirement eligible population we have out there, as the overtime goes up and they're going to be driving them out and we're losing the senior leaders out there, we have a very young work force since 9/11 to begin with, I think we hired over 5,000 firefighters since after 9/11 and they're kind of key pieces out there as far as operation discipline and passing on the experience that they have from the structural fires and different types of emergency informally to the younger members and that's a very necessary part of the department.

Q Okay. Just one more question, would you agree that the quicker that any delayed hires could be made up, if it's possible by having larger classes, the less stress on the system there would be?

A I would agree with that, yes.

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161
                       Sweeney - cross - Levy
                            Thank you, Your Honor.
1
              MS. SEELEY:
 2
              THE COURT:
                           All right.
 3
              MS. SEELEY:
                            Thank you.
 4
              THE COURT:
                           Mr. Levy.
    CROSS EXAMINATION
 5
    BY MR. LEVY:
 6
 7
         Chief Sweeney, the Fire Department hasn't hired at all
    for the last two and a half years or two years. Was there any
8
9
    kind of a significant or meaningful risk during that period of
10
    time that you were aware of in connection with the decision
11
    not to hire?
12
         I do not know the conditions why we did not -- I am not
13
    involved in any discussions as far as hiring and the
14
    strategies behind that but I know two years ago we were over
    head count at the time so this wasn't that much of an issue
15
16
    going forward, we were above, we were plus in the head count
17
    and we were keeping the overtime at lower levels thereby
18
    decreasing the cost of operating the department.
19
    Q
         And when they make the decision to hire a new class, do
20
    they talk to you, and I mean the department or the hiring
21
    decision makers, do they talk to you at all about whether
22
    there's any risk involved in not hiring?
23
    Α
         The discussion of whether to hire or not is -- I would --
24
    I myself was asking the Commissioner if we could put a class
25
    in, we put the discussion on hold because of the budget crisis
```

Sweeney - cross - Levy 162 and the concerns of possibly closing 20 companies on July 1st. 1 2 Since we -- the City Council has funded those units and we are 3 under head count, now it's even more vital that we hire a 4 class and bring the head count back up to the operating 5 strength necessary. Can I just follow on to that. Chief, 6 THE COURT: 7 when did you -- you've been in this position for a year you 8 said? 9 THE WITNESS: Correct. 10 THE COURT: When did you first ask that a new class be hired? 11 12 Probably in the spring, late spring. THE WITNESS: 13 THE COURT: And you indicated that one of the 14 benefits of not hiring is that you don't have to increase head 15 count and that's a cost to the city in the short-term? 16 THE WITNESS: Correct. 17 THE COURT: So, basically had the city hired two 18 years ago, had it hired in January of 2009 when they were 19 planning to have a class, that would have been a short-term 20 cost but using your theory, it would be a longer term benefit 21 in the sense that you would still have -- you'd have that 22 cushion as people either retired or moved up in rank in the 23 Fire Department so that you wouldn't have to face as much 24 overtime in the medium term? 25 THE WITNESS: Correct.

Sweeney - cross - Levy 163 Is that a fair statement? 1 THE COURT: 2 THE WITNESS: That is fair, yes, and I would just 3 say I didn't request a class, I just consulted with the 4 Commissioner recommending that we should have a class. Well, that's fine. It's your job as 5 THE COURT: Chief of Operations to assess the needs, the operational needs 6 7 of the department and to make whatever recommendations are 8 appropriate, is it not? 9 THE WITNESS: Correct. 10 THE COURT: Thank you. 11 Go ahead. 12 BY MR. LEVY: 13 Q Just one or two more questions. 14 Chief, would you agree with me, with the statement that more than 50 percent of their time firefighters are in 15 16 the fire house as opposed to out on a run? 17 I would agree with that. 18 Q And do you know from any studies or any analysis you've 19 done in the department about what percentage of the time 20 firemen are in the fire house as opposed to out on a run? 21 I do not know of any studies to that fact but I believe a 22 normal availability rate is about 90 percent. 23 Q So, at any one moment 90 percent of the fire force is at 24 the fire house available to go? 25 Well, they're available. They may be out doing building

164 Sweeney - cross - Levy inspections, they may be out doing hydrant inspections, they 1 2 may be out drilling or they may be critiquing a recent fire but they are available. 3 4 So, the flip side of that is about 10 percent of the time they're out on something where they are not available for 5 other things? 6 7 Α Correct. Q That could be a structural fire or some other event? 8 9 Α Or an emergency or --10 Q Less frequently I gather a structural fire, is Right. that right? 11 12 Α Excuse me? 13 Q Less frequently is it a structural fire? 14 Α Yes. And those have gone down? 15 Q 16 They have gone down over the last few years, correct. If I understood you correctly, one of the issues we're 17 18 looking at here is overtime going up to approaching 200 hours 19 a year? Correct. 20 Α 21 And that would be about five hours a week, is that 22 roughly or --They can get hired in tours of 9 hours or 15 hours, so, 23 24 and we have overtime printouts to control the overtime so it's

equalized, so they're supposed to hire accordingly not to let

Sweeney - cross - Levy

somebody get so far above and they do a pretty good job of equalizing it citywide.

Q And would I be correct in stating that for the most part or -- well, let me withdraw that and start the question again.

Firefighters are looking for overtime work generally, is that right?

A Generally, yes.

Q Would you say it is a frequent occurrence that it has to be mandated as opposed to offered?

A I would say most of the time we get enough volunteers that we don't have to order anybody to work overtime.

Q And --

THE COURT: Can I just ask, is the overtime in a particular house that the firefighter is assigned to or is overtime sometimes scheduled for a firefighter at a different location?

THE WITNESS: It's kind of two answers to that question. One is we do overtime on a battalion-wide basis, a battalion could be 6 to 10 companies, so you could work either in your home fire house or any of the other fire houses within that battalion, and then when you're scheduled for your roster staffing overtime which is 96 hours comprised of four day tours and four night tours for a calendar year, you could be detailed out to any fire house in the city to work that overtime.

166 1 THE COURT: I see. Thank you. Go ahead. 2 MR. LEVY: Just one minute Your Honor. 3 (Pause.) 4 MR. LEVY: I think that's all. Thank you, Judge. 5 6 THE COURT: All right. 7 Chief, in a document that was presented by the city 8 earlier today the city indicated that in fiscal year '10 the 9 Fire Department was under its budgeted head count by 81 10 positions, firefighter positions and then in fiscal year '11 11 it projects, I suppose because fiscal year '11 just started, 12 that it will be 261 firefighters under its budgeted head 13 count. 14 My question is in terms of response time of the Fire Department over the last five years, could you give us a 15 16 sketch in the statistics as to response time during that 17 period and indicate whether these numbers have created any 18 kind of problem with regard to response time? 19 THE WITNESS: Certainly. As far as the under-20 staffing affecting response time, it should not have any 21 effect realistically on response time. It may have an effect 22 for hiring a chauffeur multiple tours, he may be tired, 23 whatever, it may be fatigue and stress to a degree but it 24 should not have any plausible effect on the response time. As far as over the last five years, our times have 25

decreased and there's been other factors, we're not driving faster, it is actually dispatch procedure has been modified. Previously four, five years ago they would call the 911, it would get transferred to the borough communications office of the Fire Department for that particular borough and the dispatcher would ask a series of I think seven or eight questions prior to assigning the units getting all the information necessary.

I believe about -- I don't know the exact date but about two years ago we went to a pre-relief we call it, a pilot program where we shortened that to only asking six questions prior to assigning the units and then the dispatcher would stay on the phone, ask the other two questions for the call back information and just verifying the information is correct.

Then about a year ago we went to UCT, we moved our -- we have three of our current borough communications offices at 11 Metrotech which is the 911 building, so now the 911 operators take all the information, they send it to our decision dispatcher on a screen and he just assigns the units automatically. If there's problems with people trapped or whatever, they'll conference in a fire dispatcher for some information or some assistance on what they should do at that particular time.

So, while the response times have gone down, our

travel times have basically remained the same which is where we actually are upon receipt of the alarm until we get to the front of that building.

THE COURT: Now, let me ask you this question regarding overtime, do you have a view as to how many firefighters you would need to hire in the next two years in order to completely eradicate overtime?

THE WITNESS: I do not know that number off the top of my head but the number you read before, I don't know -- I meet every week with the Chief of Personnel and I met with him Monday; Monday he told me we are down 260 firefighter head count already, we just entered fiscal year '11, that number is going to increase.

THE COURT: Okay. But if you had control -- forget the budget, forget the Mayor, forget the Commissioner, if you were in charge of the world of fire fighting in New York City and it was your objective to have a Fire Department where there was no overtime, that everyone was on straight time and you maximized your firefighters using straight time, how many firefighters would you need to hire between now and 2012 do you think? I'm not asking for a precise number.

THE WITNESS: Rough estimate.

THE COURT: Are we talking two classes, three classes, four classes of 300 each?

THE WITNESS: If the intent is to eliminate overtime

169 per se, I would say we need -- we'd have to first capture the 1 2 260 we're down right now. Then we probably have about a 3 thousand firefighters a day on medical leave and light duty, so we'd probably have to add another thousand -- we probably 4 need 1,200 total to eliminate the overtime. 5 THE COURT: You'd need four classes taking into 6 7 account attrition over the two-year period? 8 THE WITNESS: Maybe five by the time we got there, 9 we could lose another 2 or 300 firefighters. 10 THE COURT: Okay. That wouldn't make some people 11 happy, would it? 12 THE WITNESS: It wouldn't make -- no, it would not 13 make some people happy. 14 THE COURT: Okay. Well, I thank you very much. 15 Is there anything else from you,. 16 Mr. Lemonedes? 17 18 MR. LEMONEDES: No, sir. Thank you. THE COURT: Anything else? 19 20 MR. LEMONEDES: We're happy about that. 21 THE COURT: You're happy? 22 MR. LEMONEDES: We're happy if there's nothing 23 further we need to present. 24 THE COURT: Anything else from the other 25 parties?

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170
              MR. LEVY: No, Your Honor.
1
 2
              THE COURT: Chief, thank you very much for coming on
 3
    short notice, the Court really appreciates it and I would add
 4
    that the Court very much appreciates your service over the
    last thirty years, as do all New Yorkers.
 5
 6
              THE WITNESS: Thank you very much, Your Honor.
 7
              THE COURT: You're welcome.
8
               (Witness steps down.)
9
              THE COURT: Do you have anybody else,
    Mr. Lemonedes?
10
11
              MR. LEMONEDES:
                               No, sir.
12
              THE COURT: Okay.
13
              Does the United States government have any
14
    witnesses?
15
              MS. SEELEY: No, Your Honor.
16
              THE COURT:
                          Mr. Levy?
17
              MR. LEMONEDES:
                               No.
18
              MR. LEVY:
                         No.
                              If Paul Washington could have
19
    stayed but he had to be at his fire house, we probably
20
    would have asked him to talk about some of the overtime
21
    issues but I think we're covered adequately and I think
22
    we're done.
23
               THE COURT:
                           0kay.
                                  Is there anything else for
    today from the plaintiff and plaintiff-intervenor?
24
25
              MR. LEVY:
                          No.
```

171 1 MS. SEELEY: No, Your Honor. 2 THE COURT: Anything from you? 3 MR. LEMONEDES: No, sir. 4 THE COURT: Now, tomorrow you're going back to talk with the Special Master, correct? 5 Tomorrow, you know, is on the issue of 6 MR. LEVY: 7 test development. 8 THE COURT: Very important issue. 9 When are you next meeting on the more immediate 10 issue, if at all, which is what to do about this test? 11 MS. SEELEY: We don't have anything scheduled other 12 than Your Honor suggested I thought this morning that the 13 Special Master may be asking us to meet again next week. 14 MR. LEMONEDES: My understanding is that we will definitely be meeting next week and that that's the issue that 15 16 would be discussed in part tomorrow when all three of us are there with the Special Master. 17 18 So, sort of in between --19 MS. SEELEY: Scheduling. 20 MR. LEMONEDES: -- dealing with the different experts we might as well get that together when we're all 21 22 there. 23 MR. LEVY: We do have a regular scheduled meeting. 24 MR. LEMONEDES: On Tuesday. 25 THE COURT: On Tuesday.

I think what we were told by the Special Master was that she may convene a session on Monday to discuss a possible resolution of what to do about the class that was scheduled for August 30th, so be prepared possibly to meet on Monday as well.

MS. SEELEY: We will, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Thank you everyone.

MR. LEVY: One other thing I think I should mention, we had some papers coming up due in reply on a back pay issue and we discussed with the city and with the United States government putting that off because we're all caught up in this test development and this test and we put that off until probably mid-September; is that all right?

THE COURT: If you're all in agreement, send me a letter and I'll so order it, that way we have all of that in the record and there will be no misunderstandings.

MR. LEVY: Very good.

THE COURT: Anything else for today?

(No response.)

THE COURT: Oh, with regard to some of the materials that underlie the charts, the parties should discuss that as to what's needed by the plaintiff and the intervenors but if there's a problem, see the magistrate judge but try to work out any problem without the magistrate judge and remember that in terms of the priorities that we have, the first priority

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173
 1
    obviously at the moment is to deal with the August 30th class
 2
    and the overriding priority is to deal with the preparation of
 3
    a new test. So, you know, prioritize, to use an overused word
 4
    that may not even be a word. Okay.
                                           Thank you. Have a nice
 5
    day.
 6
               MR. LEMONEDES:
                               Thank you, sir.
 7
               (Time noted: 4:20 p.m.)
 8
               (End of proceedings.)
9
10
11
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22
23
24
25
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			174
1		<u>I N D E X</u>	
2	<u>WITNESS</u>	PAG	<u>SE</u>
3			
4			
5		STEPHEN RUSH 10	
6		DIRECT EXAMINATION 11	
7		BY MR. LEMONEDES	
8		CROSS-EXAMINATION 54	
9		BY MS. SEELEY:	
10		CROSS-EXAMINATION 58	
11		BY MR. LEVY:	
12			
13		D O N A Y Q U E E N A N 76	
14		DIRECT EXAMINATION 78	
15		BY MR. LEMONEDES:	
16		CROSS-EXAMINATION 115	
17		BY MS. BURRELL:	
18		CROSS-EXAMINATION 127	
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